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"Continuing Progress For The Muscogee People"

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 1 January 1987 12 Pages

Bingo Tribes Face Critical Decision

Indian Bingo Is . . .

By Helen Chalakee

***INDIAN BINGO:** It all began in 1979 when the Florida Seminoles established the first Indian bingo hall and the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1982 that the state had no jurisdiciton on Indian reservations.*

With the financial success of the games came rumors that organized crime was involved. As a result, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to establish a national Indian gaming regulatory commission. This action caused all shapes and fashions of proposed Indian gaming regulatory legislation to spew forth.

All of the proposed legislation claimed its intent was to standardize Indian gaming and all of the proposed legislation contained undertones of state control.

The task put on tribal governments has been to keep one idea out front- 'tribal governments are not social organizations.' Everytime a tribe is pulled into court over jurisdiciton of their gaming operations it is a costly and time-consuming Indian sovereignty education process.

Time and again, Indian tribes have testified to their legality to Indian ignorant state officials of the tribe's right to act as a sovereign government- a right that is exclusive to Indian tribes spelled out in treaty after treaty with the United States.

This concept is either so mystifying it devastates them or their neck is so red it has caused tunnel vision. As one noted Indian historian stated in court, "Indian sovereignty is law- pure and simple." Usually the response is "but that was a long time ago" proving they have retained no respect in how their forefathers chose to structure the development of this United States.

*A Tulsa World editorial dated 10-10-85 denotes the typical 'white plague' Indian tribes are exposed to on a daily basis-**"it is condescending, to put it mildly, to suggest that the United States government can assuage national guilt for ancient wrongs against the Indians by rewarding the victims' descendants a bingo concession."***

*States are blinded by dollar signs to the legal status of tribal governments. They want our health money. They want our social service money. They want our education money and now they want, of all things, **our bingo money!. . .and they are out to get it anyway they can.***

*The Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Ross O. Swimmer (could the O. symbolize Oklahoma?), advocates state control in all areas of Indian affairs. **Thanks, but, NO THANKS, MR. SWIMMER. I don't think the Oklahoma tribes are about to let history repeat itself.***

***BRISTOW COMMUNITY BINGO RECENTLY CELEBRATED ITS 1st ANNIVERSARY** with a full house. The bingo is licensed by Creek Nation and operated by the Bristow Community as an economic project. Helping to celebrate are (l) Ray Barnett, manager of the new Okmulgee Bingo, Frances Miller, CN Festival Gift Shop employee and Principal Chief Claude Cox.*

Oklahoma Bingo Tribes Gear Up For Legislation

By Helen Chalakee

***Ethical conduct and accountability are the keys to survival for Indian bingo-** that was the message coming forth out of the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Commission conference held December 10-11 at Choctaw Nation Arrowhead Hotel.

Oklahoma tribes are operating an estimated 20 percent of all Indian bingo in the United States with more facilities expected to open in the very near future. Out of 287 federally recognized tribes in the Nation, 115 are in the bingo business.

Four pieces of federal legislation have been introduced in the U.S. Congress that would take regulatory control of Indian gaming away from tribal governments- they read from bad to worse. ***All of the legislation, in one manner or another, prescribes state control while other parts seriously endanger other aspects of tribal sovereignty.***

The Oklahoma Indian Gaming Commission was created earlier in the year as an offshoot of the United Indian Nations in Oklahoma (UINO) Gaming and Taxation Committee to deal independently and specifically with Indian gaming issues.

The OIGC feels with a self-regulatory structure already in place for the standardization of Oklahoma Indian bingo, that whatever legislation comes about in the upcoming 100th Congress will take into consideration the commission's attempt to regulate Oklahoma Indian bingo activities.

The next few months are going to be very critical to the Indian gaming industry. A lot will depend on whether the U.S. Supreme Court makes a decision about state control before the 100th Congress addresses the issue again, or if Congress will preempt with legislation.

According to those in the know in the D.C. area, Congressman Morris Udall plans to re-introduce HR 1920 to the new Congress in the same language as was passed by the House last session.

Both the National Indian Gaming Association and the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Commission feel with the changed political make-up in the Senate, tribal governments can overcome a lot of the adversity to tribal input in how the regulatory system should be structured.

If the system is structured to be monitored on a regional basis, then the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Commission will have a very important role already developed for a national networking.

Fifteen Oklahoma tribes initiated the OIGC, adopting a constitution, establishing a code of ethics and selecting officers and regional commissioners who will oversee designated geographical areas of tribal bingo facilities.

Tribes involved with this process were: Iowa, Chickasaw Nation, Kaw, Muscogee Nation, Comanche, Otoe-Missouria, Pawnee, Apache, Sac & Fox, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, Absentee-Shawnee, Western Delaware, Eastern Shawnee, Ponça, Seminole Nation and Osage Nation.

The political regulatory intrusion coming down on Indian gaming has been instigated from organized groups that want Indian gaming out of the way. They are exerting pressure on the lawmakers to do it in. It is estimated that casino operators and dog and horse track owners have spent over a million dollars to lobby against Indian gaming.

See BINGO continued on page 4

Muscogee Nation News Needs Senior Photos For Special June Edition

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATING SENIORS!! Send your photos in to the MNN and a brief paragraph about yourself and your future plans upon graduation, for a special feature in the Muscogee Nation News. Send the photo and paragraph to: Muscogee Nation News, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a montly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $6.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements. Address: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447.

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-NOTICE-

It is very important for all Creek Indians, **who are not enrolled with the tribe,** to make application for their Citizenship Card. Or if an individual has a form on "hold" contact the Citizenship Board to see what documents are needed to complete the enrollment.

Due to the fact Creek individuals need their Citizenship for any assistance for tribal or federal aid.

Enrolled Members; Please write to the Citizenship Board for an update address if you have moved since you've enrolled.

Thank You,
Citizenship Board
Creek Nation
PO Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447

CN Okemah Health Clinic Starts Appointment System

The Okemah Indian Health Clinic will begin an appointment system beginning January 5, 1987. This will be as follows:

A.M. (Morning) Appointments will be scheduled between 8:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. and 10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.

P.M.(afternoon) appointments will be scheduled between 1:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. and 3:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

A limit of 10 drop-ins both A.M. and P.M. will be seen.

Your cooperation would be greatly appreciated if you comply with our new system. If you cannot keep your appointment and come sooner or later than appointment time, you may reschedule or be seen as a walk-in if time permits.

Thank You,
Gary Tarter, Facility Director

Okfuskee Community Urges Indians to Vote in Election

Okfuskee Indian Community urges all Indian Communities to get out and vote in the January 27 School Board Election. Voters must have registered before January 16.

Dear Santa Claus,

The Okemah Indian Community would like to thank-you for the Christmas Toys that were distributed through the Creek Nation. We didn't get to take any pictures showing where the kids received the toys, but with a happy and smiling face, you know they were glad to receive the toys. Thanks again and you don't know how happy it makes us to see a child face light up, whenever he received one of your toys. May the Good Lord watche over you and take care of you.

May God Bless You,
Okemah Indian Community

Contestants Are Sought for the 1987 CN Creek Princess Pageant Held in April

The Creek Nation Princess Committee is seeking applicants nationwide for the 1987 Creek Nation Princess Pageant. This year the pageant will be held April 11, 1987 at 7:00 p.m. at the Creek Nation Mound Auditorium. A Tea Reception will be held on April 7, at 7:00 p.m in the Creek Nation Dining Hall in the main Complex building.

Contestants must be enrolled members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, a Junior in High School to a Junior in College not to exceed the age of 22 years old, never been married or have children. Talent can either be traditional or contemporary (The Lord's Prayer in sign language will not be accepted as talent).

The Creek Nation Princess will receive a $500.00 scholarship from the Office of the Principal Chief, and a gift of $300.00. The first runner-up will receive $200.00 and the second runner-up will receive $100.00. Consolation prizes will be given to all contestant participants.

Deadline for applications will be March 25, those contestants wanting their photograph in the Muscogee Nation News must send photos by March 13th. For applications contact Rachel Thomas, Creek Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447 or call, (918) 756-8700.

CN Rodeo Queen Rules Posted

1. Must be at least 1/4 Creek Indian by blood. (CDIB copy must be attached to entry form)
2. Must be a current resident of the State of Oklahoma.
3. Must be single, never been married or get married during her reign as queen or forfeit her title.
4. Age limit is 16-25.
5. Must be able to ride a horse.
6. $25.00 entry fee.
7. The queen will be expected to represent the Creek Nation Rodeo Club in various activities throughout the year.

Deadline to enter contest is May 18, 1987.

For application form and more information you can contact: Rita Williams, Creek Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Okla 74447, c/o Communications Dept. or call 918-756-8700 ext. 328.

O.I.C. News...

Okmulgee Sweetheart Contest entry forms to be picked up at the Greek Nation Complex, contact, Bernice Hale or Chiquitta Juneau.

-Job Training Notice-

Creek Nation JTPA is offering free admissions testing to qualified area individuals for job training in the exciting field of high tech electronics.

The testing will take place January 28, 1987 at the Creek Nation Complex. According to Emmanuel Morgan, individuals with appropriate test scores may be eligible for JTPA subsidized training at High-Tech Institute of Tulsa. "Electronics is being called the career of the 80's. . .with more and more jobs opening in this challenging field!, states Morgan. Interested persons should call Creek Nation JTPA for an appointment at 756-8700 extension 256.

MORNING STAR TO HOLD WINTER REVIVAL!

Morning Star Ministries will hold it's Winter Revival and Singing on January 21 through the 24 at the Creek Nation Mound Auditorium. Guest Speaker will be Brother Adrian Jacobs from Six Nations Reserve in Ontario, Canada. Brother Jacobs is the pastor of Word of Faith Church in Ohsweken, Ontario, he is a graduate of Rhema Bible Training Center in Broken Arrow, Ok.

The Revival will begin 7:00 p.m. nightly with praise and worship. Special music will be provided by Willie Davis with Faith, Hope and Charity from Higher Dimensions Church in Tulsa; Jeanette Cotey from Okmulgee; Alpha and Omega from Bixby; and The Original Flaming Sword Band. Everyone is encouraged to attend this four day Revival.

Letter to Creeks. . .

Do American Indians celebrate Thanksgiving? It depends on which Thanksgiving. The "old Thanksgiving commemorated the pilgrams tribute to God for surviving in their new land co-existing peacefully with the Indians.

The "new Thanksgiving" is the unofficial first day of the Christmas season replete with gaily festooned stores.

Native Americans actually find it easier accepting the holiday that glorifys nationwide mercantile paganism instead of the one that ultimately exalts our own genocide and the the theft of our land.

After 200 years this nation can feel no pride in the open air consentration camps called "reservations". Perhaps Thanksgiving's larger meaning is unfinished business.

Respectively,
Leo Hunter, Sapulpa OK

Letter to Creeks. . .

As I was reading the Creek News paper my mind went back to my childhood days when around this time of the year, everything was in full swing at West Eufaula Baptist Church, Eufaula, Okla. Everyone looking forward to see the Christmas program and exchanging gifts.

Looking back now, I realize we did have good programs and as a ten or twelve year old girl, I still remember some things done or said in the programs. How fortunate the church was to have had good teachers and performers to present the real meaning of Christmas.

One thing that stands out in my mind is their spelling of Christmas. It was brought out in a program that we do not short-cut Christ's name in Christmas as X-Mas-Jesus has a name and not "X" marking.

I'm older now but the teaching I heard in 1937-39 has stayed in my mind. We don't have time to spell--mas with Christ in front; it seems we're missing the point. Let's put Christ back in Christmas. He deserves the Praise.

I was about twelve years old and I remember someone got a package from someone in the neighborhood; when unwrapped, there was a nice clean rabbit just ready to be cut up and cooked. I guess I laughed with others when a rabbit came out, but now I know it was the givers best gift.

Mrs. Naomi Thompson, Muskogee OK

National Congress of American Indians News Release 1/8/87

Swimmer's Budget Termed "Blueprint for Termination"

". . . the BIA is terribly close- if not over the line, to undermining both tribal governments and Congressional intent." -Mississippi Choctaw Chief Phillip Martin

The 1988 BIA budget reflects a "blueprint for termination" charged Suzan Shown Harjo, executive director of the National Congress of American Indians. She said the budget denotes a lack of commitment from the top of the BIA in its responsibility to the federal-tribal government-to-government policy.

Harjo has urged tribal reviewers of the BIA's of the BIA's vague and self-congratulatory briefing materials to keep in mind that the overall FY1988 budget cuts services and monies to Indian peoples while it pads its own administration and management fund.

In education programs, for example, the budget is heavily weighted toward personnel costs. Included in the BIA budget is $13.5 million for increased pay costs and $18.6 million for costs of the new Federal Employees Retirement System.

Documents from the BIA and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) confirm that several onerous budget proposals- including plans to transfer BIA schools to state control, to wipe out money to strengthen Indian governments and to impose a 15% flat indirect cost rate on Indian operation of BIA programs- originated in the office of the head of the BIA, Interior Assistant Secretary Ross O. Swimmer, and were agreed to but not impossed by OMB.

For instance, an OMB passback document on the BIA's proposal to institute the 15% flat fee says, "BIA is encouraged to continue implementing a flat 15% administrative fee in lieu of negotiated indirect cost payments on tribal contracts." Regarding another BIA proposal to reduce general welfare assistance to Indian people and impose a "workfare" system. OMB simply replied, "The initiative is approved.

The BIA/OMB budget development documents; which span the period from September 2 to December 8, also confirm that the BIA "failed to consult with Indian peoples, as required by treaty and statutory law and as promised by the President in his Indian Policy Statement," said Harjo.

The schools-transfer plan was developed by the BIA sometime after the span of documents, and outside the normal Administration budget process. The plan was brought to light in mid-December by Rep. Kildee (D-Mich.) after learning of Swimmer's efforts to promote the transfer with incoming Republican state governors. "The BIA now is preparing an incentive numbers run for some states to encourage their support," said Harjo.

While details of the plan have been shared with states, they have been kept secret from tribes. Swimmer informed Hill staffers in a January 7 briefing that he wanted to talk ***"philosophy, not specifics," and that no budget details for any BIA proposal would be available until January 20, when he will submit the BIA's budget justification book to Congress.***

The draft BIA budget justification book opens with the statement that its FY1988 proposal "reflects two important initiatives: increased input by tribal governments in budget formulation and increased use of private resources in BIA operations." The draft also claims that Swimmer, prior to submitting his request to OMB in early September, "formally solicited recommendations from tribal leaders on what they saw as national priorities" and that the final budget "will be based on tribal recommendations."

These claims are not born out by early reaction of tribal leaders to the BIA plans. On December 23, Oglala Sioux Tribal Vice President Paul Iron Cloud wrote to Swimmer that the Tribe had just heard about the schools-transfer plan and "will use every means to oppose this plan" to "turn over to certain states (BIA's) remaining education responsibilities." Iron Cloud pointed to the President's pledge that tribes would be involved and would participate in "any proposal affecting any of the Indian tribes." He also reminded Swimmer of his own pledge at the June ceremonies of the unveiling of the Red Cloud Peace Pipe "to uphold the 1868 Treaty obligations in education and health."

Iron Cloud also said, "We demand an immediate repudiation of this effort and reassurances of adherence to stated policies." The Tribe, whose Pine Ridge Reservation borders South Dakota and Nebraska, also stated that ***"previous treaty violations by the United States have resulted in statistics that reflect an 85% unemployment rate, "the lowest per capita unemployment; and BIA funding which is "inadequate to provide a quality education" for Oglala students.***

Swimmer's mid-December schools-transfer plan targeted three states- Arizona, New Mexico and South Dakota- and proposed $100 million in FY1988 for the states to take over the BIA schools.

"Since the BIA also is trying to impose the 15% flat administration fee on tribal contracts, which would prove prohibitive for most, the assumption must be that the schools would be turned over to states," Harjo said. "This is a dramatic shift in policy and portends a return to the descredited federal termination policy of the 1950s to end federal obligations and turn Indian matters to the states. ·That policy was rightly repudiated by Congress and every President since that time, including this President. As with states in the 1950s and 1960s, states in the 1980s would soon realize that federally appropriated funds are insufficient to meet Indian education responsibilities, and that would follow a renewed attempt by states to tax and control Indian lands and resources. If the Administration gets away with this, there is little doubt that it would stop at education."

In yesterday's Hill briefing, Swimmer maintained that the education initiative would increase local control of education. Through BIA education reform laws of the 1970s, Indian parents and educators now are beginning to control BIA schools, and the education system improvements have been widely recognized and documented. Those laws require consultation prior to BIA policy chamges. ***When asked what legal authority would be used to transfer schools to states, Swimmer responded that his attorneys are "looking at it", but that he would likely "go the procurement contract route," which would allow BIA to circumvent the education reform mandates.***

Swimmer also claimed that the cultural values of Indian students would be protected by the BIA through monitoring state performance. ***At the same time, he maintained that the BIA does such a poor job in the education area that the states could do no worse.*** In August of last year, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians called for Swimmer's resignation on the basis of his insensitivity to Indian culture and traditional matters. In September of last year, a majority of Indian and Native Governmental members of NCAI called for Swimmer's removal for numerous reasons, among them his efforts to turn Indian programs and responsibilities over to the states and his failure to consult with Indian governments.

The current schools-transfer plan is to use 1987 as the planning year and 1988 as the implementation year. Swimmer has hired Linda Richardson, who handled Indian appropriations for the Republican-controlled Senate and who negotiated the recent transfer of Alaska Native schools to state control, to oversee the BIA budget in his office.

Richardson will work with Nancy Garrett, who was just named to direct BIA administration, to fine-tune and carry out the plan. Garret's removal from her previous BIA Education Deputy post was called for by many tribes and Swimmers promise to Sen. John Melcher (D—Mont.) to do so was key to Dr. Henrietta Whiteman's late 1985 acceptance of the BIA education director job. Garrett's promotion to Swimmer's office was announced in December after Whiteman resigned, reportedly because she could not support Swimmer's education budget and policy changes.

During the January 7 briefing, Swimmer told Hill staffers that he would oversee the education initiative and that tribes would oppose it only if they wanted to "keep abusing their children" by continuing to create "mental cripples" in BIA schools.Harjo called the characterization ***"grotesque"*** and said that ***"this plan, like the 15% flat fee scheme, is a plan in the nature of a notion. This may be the most ill-concieved and least considered proposal of all, although one runs out of superlatives in reviewing these bizarre budget designs."***

Indian leaders also have reacted sharply to Swimmer's plan to eliminate self-determination planning grants and transfer some of its funds to a program with two initiatives, one called "small tribes general revenue sharing" and the other called "troubled tribes". The "small tribes general revenue sharing" initiative would provide $5.9 million to nearly 400 tribes with 1,500 or fewer citizens to partially compensate for the loss of funds under the 15% administrative fee plan. The "troubled tribes" initiative would provide $900,000 to help three to seven tribes to overcome audit difficulties and bankruptcy conditions, most of which are brought about by poor management by the BIA itself.

The "small tribes" plan is generally recognized as a political move to gain some support for the 15% flat fee plan and as an amount of money they otherwise would have gotten under the self-determination grants, which are proposed for $7.7 million defunding, and the small tribes program, which is proposed for a $2.8 million reclassification. The "troubled tribes" plan is federally viewed as less than substantive, given the small amount of funding proposed, with potential for divisive competition and BIA favoritism.

On December 29, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Chief Phillip Martin wrote to Swimmer concerning the "dismantling of the Self-Determination grants program", which would be "lethal to continued progress in our governmental institutions." Martin said that the mid-1970s self-determination and education assistance law provided in the section 104 (a) grants a "new mechanism for the strengthening of tribal governments" and "although great progress has been made over the last decade, (tribes) are still in need of strengthening." He said that his Tribe has used the 104 grants to bolster the Choctaw Legislative Branch, "paying the costs of Tribal Council's standing committees having responsibility for oversight and monitoring of tribal administration of federal grants and contracts." He said the Choctaws "do not have a tax base to support this critical need," that the cognizant federal agency will not allow "any legislative expenses in the administrative costs pool" and that the 104 grants are the "only source of support."

The Choctaw Chief also pointed to

(See BLUEPRINT TERMINATION Pg. 3)

BINGO Continued From Page 1. . .

THE NEWLY ORGANIZED OKLAHOMA INDIAN GAMING COMMISSION OFFICERS *are shown l-r: Perry Hauser, OIGC Region II Commissioner and Western Shawnee Business Manager; William Foster, OIGC Chairman and OIGC Commissioner at Large, Foster is the Creek Nation Gaming Commissioner; Lawrence Murray, OIGC Region III Commissioner, Iowa Tribal Chairman; Billy Curry, OIGC Region IV Commissioner, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Secretary; Ron Burgess, OIGC Region VI Commissioner, Comanche Tribal Chairman; Dewey Dailey, Jr., OIGC Region I Commissioner, Otoe-Missouria Vice Chairman; and Ronald Fixico, OIGC Executive Director, CN Gaming Commission staff. Not shown is Chickasaw Lt. Governor Bill Anoatubby who serves as OIGC Region V Commissioner.*

Throughout the Indian bingo scenario, organized crime infestation has headed the list of concerns brought out by state attorney generals and legislators.

A 1984 investigation of non-profit charity sponsored bingo in Texas found that as little as ten percent, in some instances less than that, actually found its way to charity. Records revealed the bulk paid out by bingo players went for prizes and to the promoters who leased the halls and operated the concessions.

Some state bingo operators apparently circumvented the state law by creating small organizations- some with five members or fewer- in order to obtain a state bingo license.

By consolidating the license of the charities under one bingo hall, promoters were able to offer more games, increase the size of the prizes and reap more profits.

The proliferation of large halls encouraged some groups to obtain as many licenses as possible. Under most state bingo laws, a fraternal or veteran's organization or charity can obtain a license which entitles the holder to play three bingo sessions a week and give no more than $2,500 per session.

State licensed organizations stand to gain everything with nothing to lose if Indian bingo is placed under state control.

Under state control, Indian bingo would lose its competitive edge in the market. There would be no attraction to non-Indians to drive to an Indian bingo hall if prizes are the same as non-Indian bingo operations.

U.S. Senator Don Nickles held a congressional field hearing in Tulsa to hear pro and con testimony concerning Indian bingo. Tribes testified to the legality of their gaming endeavors. Treaty after treaty was cited, supporting their claim.

Then, Morland Barton testified. The slight-statured, flush-faced (and obviously corn-fed) Ottawa County Assistant District Attorney who had previously filed an injunction on the Seneca-Cayuga Bingo, asked the Indians to stand and pledge their allegiance to the American flag. When they did, he then told them they were not upholding their allegiance by operating Indian bingo.

Another political push, aimed specifically at Indian bingo, is from the non-profit charitable organizations who have to be state licensed and adhere to the state minimal prize offerings.

Bingo is legal in 43 states across the Nation. Before the recent surge in state lotteries, bingo was the number three gambling sport in the country behind horse racing and casino gambling, according to the Public Gaming Institute.

Creek Nation was accused by a Tulsa non-profit group of taking money away from the hungry, poor and crippled since the tribe had opened the Tulsa facility. They said the Creek bingo was stealing away their patrons- luring them with the big money prizes and challenged the tribe in a Tulsa newspaper to tell what the tribe was doing with the bingo revenues.

Time and again, as in the Creek Nation Bingo court case- no evidence of organized crime could be found. Even after an intensive investigation by the Tulsa District Attorney's office they could not find anything to support their accusations.

Accusations then turned to speculations as to why they believe Indian bingo will eventually be invaded by the mobsters. When the Tulsa D.A. first filed the injunction on Creek Nation Bingo, he named it a 'public nuisance'. Three thousand bingo patrons then signed petitions supporting the bingo facility and the efforts of the Creek tribe.

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CONTROL. . .

At first, Indian tribes were resentful of any type of outside regulatory control, and to some extent still are. However, it became evident to the tribes that with, or without, their input federal legislation was clearly evident.

Of the gaming legislation, the least offensive seems to be HR 1920 which was introduced by Congressman Morris Udall. After battling a deadly amendment which would have certainly mandated state jurisdiction, Udall was able to get HR 1920 out of committee and passed by the House. But, this took up a lot of valuable time for the Indians because the states used the time to file injunctions on Indian bingos across the country.

Also during this time lapse, the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Ross Swimmer, was using one of the amendments concerning not placing land in trust unless it was adjoining existing trust land, as an excuse for not placing any land at all in trust.

Swimmer was also making comments to the press about Indian bingo. Slithering into a pseudo paternalistic B.I.A. role, he said Indian bingo does not produce the 'work ethic' in tribal citizens. He commented that Indians need to learn the real value of money and not look to 'easy money' methods.

The tribes took a dim view on Swimmer's remarks along with his bad attitude about not taking land into trust. They felt with Swimmer's background as an attorney and a banker, he should look beyond his own money sniffing nose and realistically see how bingo revenue was helping the tribes deter critical federal cutbacks to much needed health and social programs.

Turning a deaf ear to tribal pleas, Swimmer got busy and assisted the Justice Department in writing yet another piece of regulatory legislation in which bingo was very narrowly defined and placed Indian gaming under state control. This legislation, more commonly known as the Administration's Bill, had a hard time finding a sponsor. Until, (you guessed it) a Nevada Senator introduced it into the Senate.

Problem after problem kept creeping into HR 1920 that had Indians running back and forth to Washington, D.C. for over a year. As the Bill worked its way through the Senate, more difficulties with amendments kept popping up which called for direct lobbying action by Indian tribal governments.

Hearings were held before the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs that drew in everyone from dog and horse track racers, to state attorney generals, to the state of Nevada's gaming commission lashing out against Indian gaming.

APPEAL TO U.S. SUPREME COURT. . .

At the ending of the 99th Congress, the Senate still had not passed HR 1920 and twenty state attorney generals were asking the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn rulings that barred state and county officials from regulating Indian bingo games.

The U.S. Supreme Court upheld the attorney general's request to conduct a hearing. The hearing was held on December 9. Again, the trend coming from the state officials was that by allowing Indian tribes to run high-stakes bingo games on reservations free of state control was "opening the way to infiltration by organized crime."

They further argued that states should be allowed to regulate the Indian games because by banning high-stakes bingo along with other forms of gambling, they (the states) had created the market for Indian bingo games. (***Connation: If you take the blame for something, then you must also take the responsibility for it it? ? ? ?***)

California Deputy Attorney General R. Walston testified, "The tribes are taking advantage of California law by marketing high-stakes bingo." He added, "The possibility that the bingo operations may be taken over by organized crime is a real one to the state of California. State regulation is the main bulwark against organized crime infiltration."

"The tribes have a considerable self-interest in running honest games because they have a lot to lose," said Glenn Feldman, a Phoenix attorney representing the tribes. He said, "There is no reason the tribes would employ organized crime types," adding, "their interest is in maintaining the integrity of the games."

Feldman also told the court, "Until there is a market for sand or sagebrush, the tribes must depend on bingo for revenue."

(Bingo Continued Next Page. . .)

OIGC Conference Leaders Say. . .

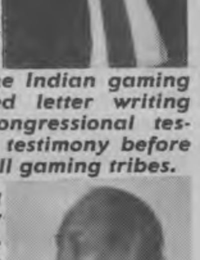
LAWRENCE MURRARY- Iowa Tribal Chairman. . *"I want my people to feel good and I want to do things for them. . .I'm tired of people in Washington telling us what to do. . we need to go ahead and do what we want- state auditors have no business at our place. . .let's ask them to reaffirm what they gave us years ago and then let us run our own damn business."*

EDGAR FRENCH- Tribal Chairman Western Delaware. *. . .Chairman French has been involved with the National Indian Gaming Assoc. since its beginning and keeps Oklahoma tribes updated on legislative issues. He strongly urges the gaming tribes to speak out and protect tribal interests.*

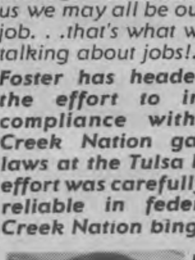
PERRY HAUSER- Western Sahwnee Business Manager. . . *"We've got a fight on our hands and we are going to have to go after it tooth and nail. . . that's the way they have been coming after us. . let's get it on!". . .*

GAYLON FRANKLIN— Sac & Fox Second Chief *. . "The Sac & Fox say no. No. Hell, no!. . .This legislation cannot interfer with our tribal sovereignty. . . We HAVE to address the implications they are placing on our sovereignty. . .the proposed two and a half percent levy is a grossly injust tax on our gaming operations. . .a war was fought over this same issue in 1776. . .Our sovereignty is not for sale, not for the price of one million pull tabs!". . .*

RON FIXICO- Creek Nation Gaming Commission/OIGC Executive Director. . . *"I believe in the gaming industry that our tribal government has legislated. It's law. . .it's tribal law. . .it's a form of livlihood- there's nothing wrong with Indians taking care of their families."* ***Fixico has been very active in the Indian gaming war. He has initiated letter writing campaigns, written congressional testimony and presented testimony before Congress in behalf of all gaming tribes.***



WILLIAM FOSTER— CN Gaming Commissioner/ OIGC Chairman. . . *"If we don't get laws to protect us we may all be out of a job. . .that's what we are talking about jobs!. . .* ***Foster has headed up the effort to insure compliance with the Creek Nation gaming laws at the Tulsa bingo. This measurable effort was carefully scrutinized and found reliable in federal court during the Creek Nation bingo court case.***



KARL AHLGREEN- Field Representative for U.S. Senator Don Nickles. . . *"I am here to learn. . .and will pass on any information to the Senator. ..Any information you have please pass it to him. . Senator is very interested in what is going on- so that he can draw a concensus of what is going on and determine what direction to take. . Please let us know in advance when you are going to be in Washington."*

Oklahoma Indian Gaming Commission Selects Seven Regional Commissioners

By Helen Chalakee

This excerpt is from Congressional testimony submitted by Ron Fixico, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Commission. The testimony was offered in the Senate Bill 902 Hearing conducted in Washington D.C.. . .*"The passive attitude of these United Indian Nations in Oklahoma is coming to a close. The Congress of the United States should welcome the opportunity to assert some authority via a regulatory commission to lay to rest unfounded allegations against the Indian gaming industry. We, the United Indian Nations in Oklahoma, are programming towards establishing what is necessary to protect gaming in our Indian country."*

As a result, the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Commission was formed says Fixico. He said, "It is the intent of the commission to develop the Indian gaming industry within the framework of tribal laws and applicable federal law."

The OIGC preamble states that gaming as a source of revenue plays a vital role in the preservation of Indian self-government. The fullfilment of this role requires an understanding by those participating of their relationship with and function in the Indian macro-economic system.

It further states, "A consequent obligation of the Indian tribes, bands and nations in Oklahoma is to maintain the highest standards of ethical conduct."

Seven commissioners have been selected to represent six districts composed of all gaming tribes in Oklahoma and are assigned tribes within their districts.

The commissioners selected are: ***Region I:*** Dewey Dailey, Jr., who is the Vice-Chairman of the Otoe-Missouria Tribe. He will oversee the 600 seat Kaw Bingo, the 500 seat Osage Bingo, the 500 seat Ponca Bingo and the largest Oklahoma Indian bingo facility which Dailey's own tribe operates, the Otoe-Missouria 4,500 seat facility.

Region II: Perry Hauser Business Manager for the Eastern Shawnee Tribe is responsible for the 600 seat Seneca-Cayuga the 600 seat Quapaw and the 750 seat Eastern Shawnee facilities. ***Region III:*** Lawrence Murray Iowa Tribal Chairman will oversee the 200 seat Pawnee, the 200 seat Iowa, the 450 seat Sac and Fox, the 1,200 seat Creek Nation Tulsa facility, and the Creek Nation 300 seat Bristow facility.

Region IV: Billy Curry, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town Secretary, will oversee the 400 seat Thlopthlocco, the 750 seat Potawatomie and the soon to be Absentee Shawnee and Seminole, facilities. ***Region V:*** Bill Anoatubby, Chickasaw Nation Lt. Governor will oversee the 500 seat Chicksaw and the soon to be Choctaw facility. ***Region VI:*** Ron Burgess, Comanche Tribal chairman will oversee the 1,500 Wichita/Caddo/Delaware, the 400 seat Kiowa/Comanche/Apache facilities.

The seventh commissioner is an at large position held by Creek Nation Gaming Commissioner William Foster who is also the OIGC Chairman.

Fixico commented that a 'Code of Ethics' has been adopted by the OIGC entailing all gaming operations, procedures and persons involved in the administration of gaming and related activities which should avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in all activities related to the tribal enterprises.

Bingo Continued. . .

According to Barbara Karshmer, also an attorney for the California tribes, she doesn't expect the Justices to make a decision for another six weeks to three months- but did relay that she felt the proceedings went well for the tribes.

States supporting state control over Indian gaming to the U.S. Supreme Court are: Alaska, California, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Iowa, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Okemah Indian Community News. . .

By Ernistine Henneha

Okemah Indian Community held their monthly meeting on December 8, 1987 at the Creek Nation Trailer House, behind the Creek Nation Hospital (temporary location). The meeting ws opened by chairman, Frances Lowe. All reports were given by each officers of the meeting. All reports were all approved and accepted.

Discussion on the agenda that night was Christmas Dinner/ Christmas Toys for the children from the Creek Nation. Had a nice meeting and a few visitors.

The Okemah Indian Community had their Christmas Dinner and Christmas toys for the children on December 20, 1986 at the New National Guard Building east of Okemah. Each family brought a covered dish for the dinner. Had about 200 people this includes adults and children together. Had a nice turnout and the weather was pretty that day and looks like everyone had a nice time, especially the children. Thanks to Creek Nation to have such a nice thing for the Indian children to have when there might have been a child out there who didn't get a gift. Once more "Thanks" to the person for having such a thoughtful heart.

One of the members of Okemah Indian Community, Agnes Canard is on the sick list and is in the hospital. Alfred Berryhill is trying to setup a Pow wow on Feb. 28, 1987 for Okemah Indian School Club Awareness. Would like all members, /non members to come to the meeting to help bring up the community we need your support. You may contact the chairperson, Frances Lowe of Okemah, Christine Burgess of Okemah, or EMS of Creek

Senator Daniel Inouye To Chair Senate Committee On Indian Affairs

Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D—Hawaii) will be the new Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs. A long-time Committee Member, Inouye is not expected to dramatically change its legislative focus or agenda, but is expected to increase its productivity and to enhance its position in the Senate.

Committee Staff Attorney Patricia Zell (Arapahoe/Navajo) has been named General Counsel by Inouye. Alan Parker (Chippewa/Standing Rock Sioux) was more recently named for the top position of staff director.

The third ranking Democrat in the Senate, Inouye is likely to eventually become the Senate Majority Whip or Majority Leader, posts now held by Senators Alan Cranston (D—Calif.) and Robert Byrd D—W.Va.), respectively. Inouye is also a high-ranking memver of the Appropriations and Rules Committee and the Secretary of the Democratic Conference in the Senate. In addition, the Senator has been chosen to chair the Senate Select Committee investigating the sale of arms to Iran and the diverson of funds to the Nicaraguan contras.

First elected to the Senate in 1962, Inouye rose to national prominence in the early 1970's as a member of the committee investigating the Watergate matter.

"The new Chairman is a consistent advocate for Indian and Native peoples," said Suzan Harjo, NCAI Executive Director. "Senator Inouye has been one of the most thoughtful leaders in Congress on federal Indian policy and programs. He will be an excellent Committee chairman and will have the clout to bring our legislation to the full Senate in timely fashion. We are optimistic that he will revive the Committee's long-dormant and much-needed function of overseeing the Administration's policy implementation.

On November 25, the Senator from Hawaii wrote to NCAI and 24 other Indian and Native organizations seeking assistance in the selection of staff and in an upcoming effort to make the Committee a permanent standing committee. He also wrote to all Indian governments, promising increased committee oversight. "This will be an active committee," he said, "with an increase in oversight hearings to insure that the administration of Indian affairs by those charged with carrying out the Federal government's trust responsibility to Indian people is held to the highest fiduciary standards." He also pledged a closer working relationship and coordination of effort" between the Appropriations and Indian Affairs Committee, so "that a more exacting scrunity of the President's budget for Indian programs can be achieved."

Inouye was named Committee Chairman following Senator John Melcher's (D—Mont.) decision to chair the Select Committee on Aging. Melcher's seniority on the Aging and Indian Committees made him eligible for both chairmanships, but Senate rules preclude senators from chairing more than one panel. Melcher will retain a seat on the Indian Affairs Committee, as will Senators Quentin N. Burdick (D—N.D.), Dennis DeConcini (D—Az.) and Frank H. Murkowski (R—Alaska).

Although final selections for the Committee's open seats have not been made, those most frequently mentioned at press time are: Senators John McCain (R—Az.), Tom Daschel (D—S.D.) , and Daniel K. Evans (R—Wash.), for seats vacated by Senators James Abdnor (R—S.D.), Mark Andrews (R—N.D.), former Committee Chaiarman, and Slade Gorton (R—Wash.), who lost their re-election bids, and Senator Barry Goldwater (R—Az.), who retired at the end of the 99th Congress.

Blueprint For Termination Continued

a ***"series of initiatives" from Swimmer's tenure as Co-chairman of the Presidental Commission on Indian Reservation Economies to his subsequent selection as BIA head "which, in sum total, appear as a co-ordinated effort to undermine tribal governments.***

While paying lip service to the government-to-government relationship, the bureau has sought to deprive tribal governments of their indirect costs, to absorb Gramm-Rudman social services cuts in the single program in that category designed for tribal administration and to deny economic development assistance to tribal governments closely involved in economic enterprises on their own reservations. ***Now, an effort to close down the program designed to strengthen those tribal governments is underway."*** Martin said the BIA is ***"terribly close, if not over the line, to undermining both tribal governments and Congressional intent."***

Indian leaders in the Northwest and Southwest have called the BIA plan to cut in half the forestry budget among the worst proposals in the BIA FY1988 budget. The Administration contends that this would be partially offset by the collection of current timber sales administrative fees, a proposal which Indian leaders say should be carefully scrutinized to determine whether it is merely a reduction from sales fees already going to Indian governments.

Blackfeet and Salish-Kootenai leaders in Montana have called for immediate Congressional oversight regarding the Swimmer initiative called "improving trusteeship." Part of this plan began in 1986 when Swimmer, without consulting with Indian governments, entered into a contract with the Mellon Bank to manage $1.7 billion in Indian trust monies. ***The tribes maintain that this Indian property right should not have been contracted by the BIA because the self-determination law prohibits contracting a trust duty.*** BIA briefing documents refer to this kind of activity as an effort to "raise the quality and standard of trust responsibility" which will "increase internal moderization of trust programs and systems and acquire private sector services that enhance the (BIA) trustee capabilities." ***Tribal leaders ask if the next step will be to contract with a large timber conglomerate to oversee Indian forestry managment.***

Concerns are also being expressed about the plan to cut 50% of the faculty of the Institute for American Indian Arts in Sante Fe and to cut operating funds for BIA post-secondary on the assumption that Indian students will pay 10% of the tuition costs. Swimmer maintains that the students will be able to get 10% cost through other federal education programs in the Department of Education. However, these programs are being reduced or eliminated, as well.

The BIA's "self-assistance" or "workforce" initiative is also raising concerns. Swimmer says the program "will require able-bodies recipients of BIA general assistance payments to work or train in order to receive their grants." ***Harjo called the plan "simplistic and troublesome", in that it "does not address the realities of the lack of jobs in Indian Country, transportation problems, costs of child care and most other practical factors, as well as the BIA's role in contributing to the astronomical jobless rate."***

A BENEFIT WINTER STOMPDANCE, SPONSORED BY THE SAPULPA INDIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM was held December 13 at the Sapulpa National Guard Armory to benefit the Spring Powwow held each year by the Indian Education Program. Shown in the center of the stompdancers is Tema Tiger from Cromwell.

Stompdance Benefits Indian Ed Program

A Benefit Stompdance was held at the National Guard Armory in Sapulpa on December 13. The Winter Dance entertainment, which featured stompdancers from various Creek Nation grounds, was sponsored by the Sapulpa Indian Education Program staff, students and the parent Committee.

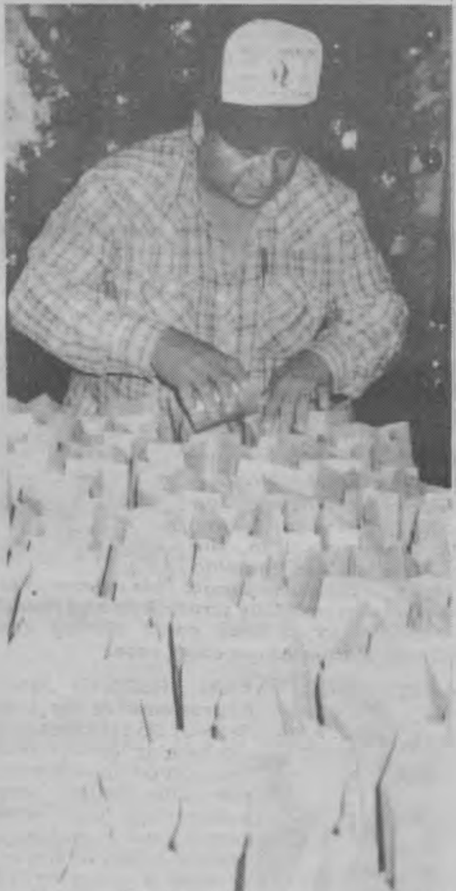
Dwight Pickering, Director of the program explained that the proceeds from the stompdance concession and raffles would help raise the funds to put on the Annual Spring Powwow held by the Indian Education Program, which is the highlight of the Indian Heritage Day in the Sapulpa Public Schools.

This is the fifth year that the winter stompdances have been held to benefit the Spring Powwow, Pickering added.

The Parent Committee consists of: Chairman - Georgina Rowe, Vice-Chairman - Gwen Taylor and Secretary - Allen Harjo. The tutors in the program are; Naomi Pickering, Vickie Pickering, Beth Bear, Wanda Weaver, Raydean Bemo, Rhonda Cassidy and Linda Harjo.

Clarence Tiger of the Okemah Indian Community, is credited with originating the yearly stompdance, according to Pickering.

OKMULGEE INDIAN STUDENTS PRESENTED A NATIVE AMERICAN NATIVITY SCENE after the Okmulgee Indian Community Christmas Dinner. The presentation was coordinated by teachers Glenda Sullivan and Pat Wilson. Students participating in the program were (Mary and Joseph) Michael Whitlow and Annie Thomas; (Host of Angels) l-r; Christy Dawn Williams, Roxanne Jones, Ramona McBroom, Sally Howell, Cecelia Leybas and Shannon Prieto; (Shepherds) l-r; Tony Hale, Jr., Jay Haynes and Shannon McBroom.



JIMMY JONES, CN FOOD SERVICE MANAGER, fills sacks with nutritious Christmas goodies that were distributed to the Elderly Nutrition Centers for Christmas dinners.

Tonya Kay Jones

Jones Completes Camp

Seaman Tonya Kay Jones, Creek, is currently stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. She completed her bootcamp and apprenticeship training in Orlando, Florida.

Seaman Jones plans to enter the Officers Program. If accepted she will go to San Diego, California for one year to train, after completion she will go to the Navy Reserves where they will send her to the college of her choice for four years and then six years of active service as an officer starting as an Ensign.

Seaman Jones, 20, is a graduate of the Tulsa Public Schools, Booker T. Washington. She is the daughter of Jimmie Jones, Okmulgee, and Sue Stephens of Tulsa. She has one brother, Tony Jones 18, and one sister Michele Jones 14, both of Tulsa.

Coweta Indian Community Share Christmas Dinner

The Coweta Sr. Citizens held their Christmas Dinner at the Coweta Indian Community Center on December 18 at noon.

There were 91 Sr. Citizens in attendance at the Dinner with seven dinners sent out to shutins, according to Mrs. Willis (Virginia) Bell, who sent in this report to MNN.

Roy Simms, 97, was honored as the oldest person in attendance. He is from Shell Creek and has the distinction of being the oldest, living aviator in Oklahoma. A recent crash, however, now prohibits him from piloting.

Rev. George Doyle of Coweta was in charge of the program and Fannie Chalakee led the group in Creek hymn-singing. Laverne Dobbins and Katie Smith sang and played the guitar.

The Senior Citizens from the Native American Coalition in Tulsa were special guests of the day.

The menu for the day was Turkey and Dressing, Ham and all the trimmings.

The Coweta Sr. Citizens wish to thank the MNN for running their notice, saying that was one of the reasons for their large turnout.

The officers of the Coweta Sr. Citizens are; President - Willis Bell, Vice-President - Andy Childers, Secretary - Eloweda Tiger and Martha Squires, Treasurer.

Tribal Investments Trend are Creative

Indian leaders and the federal government are hopeful that some tribes may be embarking on the road to economic independence, according to lawyer Thomas Tureen in the NY Times. Tureen presently advises tribes on financial matters.

"There's been a fundamental shift in the way tribes are doing business, said Tureen, co-founder of Tribal Assets Management, a Maine firm that acts as financial advisor and investment banker to several tribes.

Tureen has been involved in economic development on reservations for the last 10 years. He helped direct the land claims suit that eventually won an $81.5 million settlement for the Penobscots and Pasamaquoddies of Maine.

Tureen said the use by the tribes of the settlement capital by the tribes has contributed greatly to the current trend of creative investing by some tribes.

For example, the Maine tribes purchased a cement factory, a radio station and a blueberry farm. The tribes also started a line of products called Native American Foods and broke ground for a factory that will be operated by a Finnish partner, that will produce prefabricated houses.

As a result of the tribe's efforts, unemployment at the Penobscot reservation dropped from 60 percent to 10 percent since the early 1980s, according to Tureen.

Tureen said that the recent decrease in federal spending on programs that aid Indians created "a tremendously difficult interim," but the situation might force tribes more aggressively toward economic expansion.

The most important force behind Indian economic development is coming from within the tribes, said Zane Jackson, chairman of the tribal council in Warm Springs, Oregon. Jackson said that an increasing number of Indians in the last several years have pursued college and graduate school education, gained financial expertise and have started to return to the reservations.

The educated Indians have helped tribal governments realize the resources they have been unaware of, said Jackson.

A Public Apology To Carter Camp

Reprint: Creek Indian Town Talk, Jan. 1987 Issue

This is a new year. A time when most of us look back to see our mistakes. Somehow they stand taller than our achievements. Some things we can try to correct. In this light, I hereby submit a public apology to an individual whom I have considered a radical in the past. I now believe he may have been ahead of most of us in dealing with Indian problems. My upbringing was totally Creek and very islolated. Even the Cherokee tribe just next door was far, far away.

My humble apoligies and acknowledgements to Carter Camp for his persistent efforts and tremendous achievements. I wish you a Good New Year and lots of blessings.

MVTO! Margaret Mauldin

PAULINE JAMES, LEFT, VICE—CHAIRMAN OF THE BRISTOW INDIAN COMMUNITY, AND OPAL MEASHINTUBBY, MANAGER OF THE BRISTOW INDIAN BINGO, cut the cake at the First Anniversary Celebration of the Bingo Operation, Friday, January 9. A record-breaking crowd of 307 attended the evening's Bingo session to take advantage of the $200 jackpot that was the prize for all regular session games.

Report Shows Reservation Conditions Worse

A recent Department of Interior report has concluded that the economic conditions on American Indian reservations are getting worse with no relief in sight, said Interior officials on December 12.

The Interior Department study found that 41 percent of Indians who live on the reservations live on incomes below the poverty level as opposed to 12 percent of the total United States population.

High levels of poverty and unemployment on reservations have been made worse because federal spending on social programs has decreased and the markets for oil and timber, upon which many tribes depend for economic support, have experienced decreasing revenues, said the report.

Revenue from oil and other minerals fell from $163 million in 1982 to $128 million in 1984 and probably declined in 1985, according to the staff who prepared the report. Timber revenue fell from $117 million in 1979 to $59 million in 1983.

Federal spending on Indian reservations declined by 4 percent between 1981 and 1984 after adjustment to take inflation into account. Federal spending has declined in current dollars in 1985 and spending on anti-poverty programs fell even more sharply, the report said.

The report has several recommendations to attract private capital to the reservations and encourage economic development.

One proposal is to create "Indian Enterprise Zones," to give tax incentives, relief from some federal regulation and other benefits to private investors who open businesses on reservations.

Another plan would have the Defense Department and other federal agencies give preference to reservations when letting contracts.

According to Ross O. Swimmer, assistant Interior secretary for Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Affairs endorses the report's findings and recommendations. Swimmer said the several private businesses were already beginning on some reservations under the bureau's guidance.

Suzan Harjo, executive director of the National Congress of American Indians, said the recommendations are inadequate to heal the economic ills of Indian reservations.

"The situation in Indian Country is a national disgrace and should be something Americans should be embarrassed and do something about," according to Harjo.

According to a 1980 census, about 25 percent of the nation's 1.37 million American Indians live on reservations. The staff officials said the have not found historical information on Indian unemployment and poverty from previous census reports.

Indian reservations "are looking for anybody with business smarts; anybody that wants to bring in anything from a pizza parlor to a Defense Department contract," said Joel Starr, a staff assistant to Swimmer.

Starr said reservations offer "a labor pool that is not all alcoholic, not all sitting around waiting for the next government check.."

Other national Indian development organizations, such as the Seventh Generation Foundation, in California, offer a variety of approaches to development. Reservation and Indian community development is best when it recognizes and enhances the Indian culture of the particular Indian nation, according to Dagmar Thorpe, executive Director of the SG Foundation. The national Indian foundation stresses land-based self-sufficiency as part of its program to development in reservations.

SUE WHITE, LEFT, AND JANICE TIGER, RIGHT, both employees of the Creek Nation, recently exhibited their traditional tribal ribbon and beadwork in the Council House Christmas Show in downtown Okmulgee.

Council House Exhibits Work of CN Staff

By Kathryn Bell

Two Creek women, Sue White and Janice Tiger, both employees of the Creek Nation, had their traditional tribal ribbon and beadwork exhibited at the Creek Council House in Okmulgee during their Christmas Show.

Janice, a three-year employee with the Creek Nation, currently employed with Realty and Facilities, displayed Creek ribbonwork at the show.

Janice said she began to make traditional clothing for her three daughters to wear to participate in the traditional ceremonial activities of their ceremonial ground, Duck Creek. "I was raised in the ceremonial ways and we all are shellshakers at our grounds," she added. Her fine work in the detail of the shirts and dresses she does are modernized with a ribbon-effect.

She lives in Liberty Mounds with her son, Richard and daughters Wanda, Kathy and Lori. Janice is the daughter of Henry Tiger of Haskell and Vada Nichwander of Bixby. She is Euchee and Creek. She was raised in Liberty Mounds and attended school there.

Janice said she became interested in sewing in high school and has always sewn for her family. She was recently commissioned to sew ribbon shirts for members of the Creek Nation Rodeo and has also sewn for the participants in the Creek Nation Princess Pageant.

This was the first time that she had been asked to exhibit her traditional fashions - "I was very honored that the Council House staff asked me to exhibit in their Christmas show, "she said.

Janice feels that her traditional ribbon and beadwork is helping, in a small way, to preserve her culture - "to me it is bringing back what was lost - the traditional Creek and Euchee designs were never really preserved." Janice explained that two years ago, she went to the Tallahassee Indian Heritage Festival and there met a man who gave her literature and photographs of the early, original Creek designs - which she now incorporates in her own work. "It is interesting to note that all the single women wore pioneer-style dresses and wore aprons with no ribbons, while married women wore the aprons with ribbons on the bottom of the apron and on the pocket," she said.

Exhibiting also in the Christmas Master's Show was Sue White, who works with the CHR program at Creek Nation. Sue exhibited traditional Creek and Plains tribal ribbonwork and beadwork on a variety of clothing, from dresses to vests.

Sue said she has been sewing for years and got started making clothing for her children for their ceremonial activities at their ground, Thlopthocco.

Sue has had showings at various places locally, of her work, including a one-woman show at Harden's Art Studio in Henryetta on Labor Day last year. She plans to exhibit at the Symposium on the American Indian in the Spring at NEOSU in Tahlequah as well as an upcoming American Indian Theatre function in Tulsa.

The mother of five children, Sue was born and raised in Weleetka and makes her home now in Okmulgee.

If anyone is interested in the traditional ribbonwork and beadwork of these women, you may contact them through Creek Nation.

Exhibit Features Work of Joe Washington

Joe Washington, employed with the Creek Nation, was one of the Creek exhibitors in the Council House Christmas Show held in December at the Council House in Okmulgee.

The artist is a graduate of Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and is currently employed with the CN Higher Ed program as a Teacher-Manager of the Adult Ed Program. Joe has taught beading classes to Indian communities in the Creek Nation area. He has won many awards for his beadwork in such shows as the Five Tribes Museum show.

Joe is the son of Joe and Wilma Washington of Muskogee. He and his wife, Mary and their four children make their home in Muskogee.

Thanks From CN Toy Drive Committee...

The committee on the Ayuda Toy Drive thanks everyone who participated in the distribution of the toys for Christmas, 1986. Everyone seemed more than willing to help and we appreciated this attitude.

Please send pictures and thank you letters or cards to: Rick Rowe, Ayuda Toy Drive, Lock Bar (R), Rahway, New Jersey 07065

Douglas Family Holds November Reunion

The Douglas family reunion was held November 27,1986 at Okmulgee Indian Community Center with many relatives and friends attending. Harry Douglas, Okemah, led the church service prior to the buffet style Thanksgiving dinner, followed by gospel singing by Harry Douglas and his singing group. Special recognition was given Melinda Taryole, 1986 Creek Nation Princess; Susie Monday, Oldest member present; Clarence Douglas,former McIntosh County sheriff for many years; college students including Bruce Douglas, James Whitetree, Melinda Taryole, Susan Tompkins, Jacque Bevenue, Randy Cusher, Connie & Ted Barrett. Everyone had a great time and it was decided to hold the next reunion on Thanksgiving Day, 1987.

Those attending were: Jack & Tsianiana Powell, Woodbine, Maryland. Joe & Galela Tompkins, Fairfax, Virginia, Susan Tompkins, Reston, Virginia, Joe & Ruth & Jennifer, Elizabeth, Colorado, Tsianina Freeman, Englewood, Colorado, Freeland, Sue, Dennis & Denise Douglas, San Antonio, Texas, Rickey, Karen, Francine & Cate Douglas, Oklahoma City, Ok, Ken & Liz Wilson, Tulsa, Dana Barrett, Tulsa, Theada Barrett, Ted Barrett & Tamara Barrett, Tulsa, Steve Fitzgerald & Connie Barrett, Stillwater, Ken & Darlene Taryole, Okmulgee, Sonny & Betsy Taryole, Henryetta, Van & Sophia Taryole, Okemah, Rhonda Hill & Son, Depew, Clarence Douglas, Eufaula, Roy Roberts & Son, Melinda Taryole, Henryetta, Cliff Whitetree, Wyandotte, Susie Monday, Morris, Geneva, Alisa, Bruce & Harry Douglas, Okemah, Stella Roberts & Joe Leitka, Okemah, Elmer Jones, Okmulgee, Walter Jones, Okmulgee, Norma Wilson, Tulsa, Charles Wilson, Tulsa, Jerry, Becky, Jamie, Dale & Missy Whitetree, Beggs, Linda, Bobby, Randy & Cindy Cusher, Okmulgee, Betty Lewis & Kendrick Lewis, Beggs, Martin & Lanita Lang & Dau, Boynton, Andy & Malinda Tuttle, Sapulpa, Jimmie & Jenice Jones & baby, Okmulgee,Sally Goodvoice, Okmulgee, Walter Jones Jr., Paul Jones, Okmulgee, Floyd & Norma Jones, Okmulgee, Douglas Freeman & two children, Sapulpa, Robert Freeman, Lee Freeman, Randy Freeman, Kansas City, Kansas, Rex Harjo, Tulsa, Nita & Angela Prince, Shawnee Judy Roberts, Okemah, Carolyn Thomas, Okmulgee, Jacque Bevenue, Okmulgee

Seat Belt Law Now Effective . . .

The child passenger restraint law has been in effect since November 1, 1983. All children under five shall be protected by use of a passenger restraint system or seat belt while a motor vehicle is operated on all roadways. ***Seat Belt Law: (a)Driver and front seat occupant must wear a seat belt while vehicle is in motion. (b) Medical waivers with Doctor's certificate. (c) Exempt: Mail Carriers, trucks, pickup trucks, recreational vehicles and vans. (d) Penalty: Violation fine $10; court cost $15, a total of $25.***

NOTE: If you were issued a child car seat and it is not in use, please return it to Creek Nation so that it can be re-issued to another child.

Warren Eugene Harjo Jr.

Henryetta Athlete Makes All-State

By Rita Williams

Warren Eugene Harjo, Jr. Creek, of Henryetta has been selected to the 1986-87 Oklahoma Coaches Associations All-State football team and will be playing in the East-West All-State game held in Norman Oklahoma.

Harjo was selected as the Outstanding defensive back in District 3-A-3. Among other honors he was the top defensive back in Region Two and received recognition on the Tulsa World's All-State team for 1986.

He started playing football as early as the third grade, but it wasn't until Jr. High he began to "look up to" and receive encouragement from another Henryetta All-Stater, Troy Aikman.

"I knew coaches were looking at filmstrips of me and another classmate, who is also Indian, but little did I dream, it would be me." One of my coaches called me the day he learned of the news. "I just shouted and jumped all day and I said, "This would be my Christmas present."

"If theres anything I do that helps the upcoming athlete it would be to encourage them to play 110% on every play, that's what the coaches look at, "believe in yourself and don't let others tell you, you're no good." Harjo commented.

The young talented athlete has dreams and goals to set foreseeing himself in business owning and operating a Sporting Goods business.

Harjo is a Senior at Henryetta High School and although he is undecided as to what college he will go he plans to enter into Marketing and Management.

His parents are Warren Harjo of Henryetta and mother Susan Wilhite Harjo of Texarkana, Arkansas, one sister, Candy Harjo, 15 of Henryetta.

Paternal Grandparents are Alex and Blanche Harjo of Henryetta and Maternal Grandparents are W.C and Louise Wilhite of Henryetta.

Okemah School Indian Club To Hold Pow-Wow

By Christine Henneha

The Okemah Middle School J.O.M. is having a benefit Pow-Wow exhibition stompdance, Feb. 28. It will be held at the new armory building, 1 mile east of Okemah on highway 62 and 1/2 mile south toward the small airport field. Starts at 2:00 p.m. Co-hosted by the New Nation Inter-Tribal Pow wow club.

The master of ceremonies head singer is Wiley Little Creek, Head Man Dancer is Clarence Yaholar, Head Lady Dancer is Penny Murray, Head Boy Dancer is Matthew Henneha, Head Girl Dancer is Noreen Standing Elk, Head Gourd Dancer is Micheal Tsotaddle, Arena Director is Sam Grass & Frances Deere, Sponsor Staff is Mr. Freeman Zunigal, Al Berryhill and Christine Henneha.

Other dates to remember, on February 21, 1987 a birthday pow wow honoring Matthew Henneha will be held at Seminole Armory Building in Seminole Okla, starting at 1:00 p.m.

January 17, 1987 a pow wow will be held at Dewey Oklahoma (Title IV) at the fairgrounds, supper will be at 5:00 p.m. Dewey is north from Tulsa, Oklahoma.

March 14, 1987 a stompdance will be held at Dewey, Oklahoma at the Fairgrounds for Title IV also. Everyone is invited to attend the pow wow and stompdance to help our Indian school children. If you can't come send your prayers for a job well done.

We would also like to take this opportunity to "Thank" the Creek Nation sponsors for the "Toys for the Indian Children," and for the help in some of the Christmas baskets and clothes from various places that met our needs.

In addition I would like to thank you good people for answering the respond to letters and visits to Lizzie Robison who is in the nursing home. She was very tickled she heard from old school mates and old friends who came to visit her. She said it made her Christmas a good one. Keep up the good work. She stayed in the nursing home for the holidays. .

Couple Celebrates 50th Wedding Anniversary

John P. and Owallah S. "Billie" Williams, residents of Albuquerque since 1955, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

A reception was hosted by their daughter, Beverly Wilkins of Albuquerque, and their son John R. of Laurel, Md., at the Hilton Hotel from 2 to 5 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Williams are originally from Oklahoma. They were married in Tulsa on June 16, 1936.John was employed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for 40 years in various positions and locations in Arizona and New Mexico and was the administrative manager of the Albuquerque Indian School at the time of his retirement in 1976. Owallah worked for the General Services Administration as a switchboard operator and also retired in 1976 after 25 years of government service.

The Williamses have five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Creek SHS Student is Outstanding Runner

By Rita Williams

Von "Skeet" Bemo

Von "Skeet" Bemo is a 15 year old Sapulpa High School sophomore. Skeet is of the Creek and Seminole tribes. His parents are Dink and Lena Bemo of Sapulpa. His maternal great-grandparents were the late Chick and Nancy Roberts of the Nuyaka community. His paternal grandparents are Simeon and Beulah Bemo of Wewoka.

Skeet has had an outstanding cross-country season this year, running for the varsity cross-country team. This has been his first year of long distance racing. Under the coaching of Dwight Pickering, Skeet has excelled. Among his accomplishments have been, placing first in his age group and 13th over-all in the 8k (5 mile) Challenger 8 Road Race, placing first in his age group and 77th over-all in the 15k (9 mile) Tulsa Run, placing first in his age group and 13th over-all in the Jingle Bell Run held in December in Tulsa. Also, he placed 5th in the Frontier Conference Cross-Country Championships and 5th over-all in the class 5A Regional Cross-Country meet. Sapulpa competed as a team in the class 5A State Cross-Country Championships held in Stillwater. Skeet finished 4th in the meet, thus qualifying him as an All-State cross country runner. He is the first runner from Sapulpa to be named to this all-state team. Additionally, he has set three new school records this year in the 2 mile, 3 mile and 9 mile distances.

Skeet competed in a 5k (3.1 mile) run at Woodson Park in Oklahoma City to qualify for the TAC (The Athletic Congress)-Region IX Cross-Country Championships. He placed 3rd in qualifying and representing Oklahoma in the Region IX competition he finished 2nd over-all. This qualified him for the TAC National Cross-Country Championships held this year in Irvine, California. He competed as a member of the Tulsa Spike's Running Club. The Nationals were held on Saturday, December 13, 1986 at the University of California, Irvine Campus.

Besides running, Skeet is a 3 year member of the Indian Club and held the office of President while in Junior High.His current grade point is 3.0 and he's looking forward to attending college to study the field of mathematics and to continue his *running. He is considering Haskell Jr.* College, Oklahoma State University and Kansas University at this time and his athletic abilities should open a few doors for him also. Skeet would also like to extend his personal 'thanks' to his parents, family, coach and friends for their support in his efforts. He lists, "Meeting Billy Mills at the Tulsa Run and making All-State" as the highlights of this past season.

Amelia J. Freeman

Freeman Graduates from Modeling School

Amelia J. Freeman graduated from the Nancy Bounds International Modeling and Finishing school, at Overland Park,Kansas on August 9,1986.

Amelia received an award for Original Fashion. She is an honor roll student at, Antioch Middle School of Overland Park, Kansas. She hopes to be a buyer for a large department store. She was a candidate for Valentine Sweetheart in the 6th grade and is 13 years old.

Amy is the daughter of Odette Freeman, the Grand daughter of Hepsey Freeman and Robert Freeman, the great grand daughter of Celia Berryhill of Okmulgee.

—OBITUARIES—

Lewis Alexander

Lewis Edward Alexander, long active in American Indian issues and a founder and executive director of the Portland Urban Indian Council, died November 25 in a Portland Hospital. He was 74.

A retired U.S. Army Infantry major, Mr. Alexander moved to Portland in 1969 and served for two years, 1970-72, on the Mayor's staff as city man power coordinator. He was chairman of the mayor's Area Manpower Planning System and served as the city's liaison with federal, state and private manpower organizations.

In 1972, he was one of five founders of the Urban Indian Council, establishing the helping agency on a $9,000 city-administered federal grant. He was named executive director of the organization in 1978, when it's budget had grown to more than $1 million in federal funds and it's staff to more than 55 people working in programs that include education, health, job referral, youth and elderly activities and community service. He served in that capacity until 1980 but was called out of retirement in 1983 to again direct the agency, which he did until his death.

Mr. Alexander was an active member and served two terms as chairman of the Commission on Indian Services, a body created in 1975 by the Oregon Legislature to improve Indian services. He also was a founder of the Native American Business Alliance, an association of more than 100 Indian businesses, and the Native American Rehabilitation Association, an agency addressing alcohol and drug abuse.

A recognized expert on Indian culture, he coordinated the "Native American Earth" pavilion at the 1974 World's Fair in Spokane.

Born in Broken Arrow, Okla., Mr. Alexander was left alone at age five when his mother died in 1918 flu epidemic. He spoke only his native Creek-Seminole tribal language when he was placed in a Bureau of Indian Affairs Euchee Mission boarding school in Sapulpa, Okla where he began his formal education.

He attended Bacone College in Muskogee, Okla., and Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kan. He also attended Texas Tech at Lubbock on an athletic scholarship-he was a 160 -pound center on the football team-and later earned a degree in business administration from the University of New Mexico.

Mr. Alexander enlisted in the U.S. Army as a private during World War II and also served in the Korean War. He retired as a major in 1964.

He received many medals, including the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for injuries sustained in war time. In 1986, he also received a Medal of Honor from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Survivors include his wife, Fern Thompson-Fisher Alexander; a daughter,Nancy Gomez of Mesa AZ; three sons, Lewis Alexander of Albuquerque, N.M., John Fisher of Portland, and Bruce Fisher of Tahlequah, Okla; a sister, Dolly Henry of Broken Arrow,Okla; a brother, Geronimo Alexander of Albuquerque, N.M.; 10 grandchildren. The Funeral was conducted in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church followed by burial in Williamette National Cemetery. The family suggests that remembrances be contributions to the Urban Indian Council and/or St. Andrew's Episcopal Church.

Irene Polk

Irene Polk, age 62 died December 23 in Okemah. Services were held December 26 at Southside Baptist Church, where she was a member. Officiating the service was Rev. Ron Crews. Interment was in the Okmulgee Cemetery.

Survivors included two sons, Luther Polk of Okmulgee, and Eddie Sugar of Tulsa; one brother, Chris Sugar of Arkansas; one sister, Nellie Nelson of Phoenix, Az. and six grandchildren.

Alice Mae Wheeler

Funeral services were held December 18 at the Mutteloke Methodist Church for Alice Mae Wheeler, 61 of Bristow. Rev. Jerry Baker officiated the service. Interment was in the Bucktrot Family Cemetery.

Mrs. Wheeler was born February 24, 1925 in Kellyville and had resided in the Bristow area since 1936.

She was married to Roy Nelson Wheeler who preceded her in death in May, 1966 and her parents Wysena and Annie Brown Bucktrot. Three brothers and one sister also preceded her in death.

Survivors include four sons, Danny Wheeler and Earl Wheeler of Bristow, Freddy Wheeler of Oklahoma City and Johnny Wheeler of Sapulpa; three daughters, Royce McNac, Bristow, Wanda Brese, Glenpool, and Linda Edge of Moore; three sisters, Phoebe Jones, Bristow, Hazel Tiger, Cromwell, and Ruth Crittenden of Stilwell; 16 grandchildren and 6 step-grandchildren.

Is Your Home Fire Safe?...

A Service of the CN Community Services Dept.

Matches and careless smoking hazards.
Matches are kept away from heaters, stoves and sources of heat.
Matches and cigarettes are always out before you throw them away.
Every room in your home has plenty of large, fire-proof ash trays.
"No Smoking in Bed" is a firm rule for everyone in the home.
Electrical Hazards.
Only qualified electricians are allowed to work on house wiring.
All appliances and cords have UL labels of Underwriters Laboratories.
You do not use multiple attachments on one electrical outlet.
You have special circuits for heavy duty appliances like stoves.
You use only 15 amp fuses on your home lighting circuits.
Extensions are never put under rugs, on hooks or through doors.
HouseKeeping Hazards.
Rags, papers, other combustibles are never stored in the home.
Lids on leftover paints and solvents are always tightly closed.
Gasoline and benzine are never used for any purpose in the home.
Gasoline is always kept in safety can with self-closing lid.
Leaves and debris are promptly removed on surrounding property.
Every fireplace is covered with a metal fire screen.
Matches are always stored out of the reach of young children.
Heating and Cooking Hazards.
Heating equipment has either UL or American Gas Association label.
Do you have your heating system inspected and serviced each season?
Are walls and ceilings properly protected from sources of heat?
Is your stove, oven and broiler kept clean from grease?
Are curtains near stoves tied so they won't blow near the flame?
In Case Of Fire.
With children, when you leave home even for a short time you always get a responsible babysitter who can get the children out.
Fire Department phone number can be found quickly near the phone.
You have a plan of escape from every room, particularly bedrooms.
Everyone in the family has actually practiced this plan of escape.
Everyone in the family knows where the nearest fire alarm box is.

Every "No" answer endangers your home and family.

Phillip L. Lewis

Services for Phillip L. Lewis, 55, of 211 Butler Drive, were held December 9, 1986, at 2 p.m. at the First Indian Church, Minnesota and Darrow Streets.

Officiating was the Rev.Joe L. Ray, pastor of the First Indian Baptist Church. Burial was in the Resthaven Memorial Park under the direction of Roesch Funeral Chapel.

Lewis died Sunday, Dec. 7, in Veterans Hospital, Oklahoma City.

Wake services were held at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, at the Roesch Funeral Chapel.

He was born Jan. 19, 1931 in Eufaula. Lewis married Emma Jean Saumty on Nov. 23, 1973 in Oklahoma City. The couple moved to Shawnee in 1981 and had lived here since that time. Lewis was a member of the First Indian Baptist Church of Shawnee. He was a veteran of the United States Navy and served as a paratrooper in the 82nd Division of the United States Army during the Korean Conflict. He was honorably discharged from both.

Survivors are his wife, Jean Lewis, of the home; a stepson, Joe Ricker, of the home; two stepdaughters, Millie R. Salveson, Billings, Montana; and Theda R. McCabe, Parker, Arizona; nine grandchildren; his father, Frank Lewis, Eufaula; two brothers, Clifford Lewis, Edmond; and Jeremiah Lewis, Eufaula; five sisters, Christine McIntosh and Ramona Billy, both of Oklahoma City; Frankie Carr, Checotah; Augustine Duncan, Checotah; and Shirline Ade, Harlem, Montana; and a host of nieces and nephews.

Lewis was preceded in death by his mother, Elizabeth Billie.

Pauline Grayson

Mrs. Pauline Grayson, 61, of Okmulgee died December 23 in Tulsa. She was born August 24, 1925. She was a housewife and member of New Town Methodist Church.

Survivors include two sons, Tommy and Tony Grayson both of Okmulgee; five daughters, Marianne Scott, Hattie Hensley, Christine Bear, Diana Compton, all of Okmulgee and Kathryn Grayson of Glenpool.; her mother Sarah Simmers of Okmulgee; three brothers, three sisters, 25 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and two aunts.

Services were held on December 26 at New Town Methodist Church Rev. Bud Sullivan officiated the service assisted by Rev. Almer Berryhill. Pallbearers were: Alfred Berryhill, Johnny Willie, Jimmy Jones, Frankie Starr, Billie Jones and Glenn Jones.

Corly Holata

Corly Holata, 21 year old resident of Morris, died at her home December 28.

Survivors include her father, James A. Holata of Oklahoma City, her mother Dorothy Pinezaddleby of Lawrence, Ks., her fiancee Terry Cobb of Morris, five sisters; Janice Bailey of Florida, Barbara Holata of Preston, Mary Gordon of Morris, Lizanne Holata and Jamie Holman both of Okmulgee.

Services were held December 31 at Big Cussetah United Methodist Church. Rev. Jesse Sullivan and Rev. Togo Berryhill officiated the service. Pallbearers were: Jeff Goodman, Doug Brush, Tommy Wahnee, Larry Sharp, Sammy Smith and Terry Kelley.

Note of Thanks...

We would like to express our appreciation for the kindness and sympathy shown to our family during the recent loss of our mother.

The Family of Pauline Grayson

SANTA DISTRIBUTES CHIRSTMAS CHEER *at the Christmas Dinner held at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center December 19. The toys given to the children were donated through the Ayuda Toy Project, which has been sponsored by Creek Nation for the past three years. "Santa" was jovially played by Rhonda Parker.*

SANTA VISITS WITH MANDY WASHINGTON *at the Muskogee Indian Community Christmas Dinner. Mandy, 4, and her father Joe were among the more than 200 Muskogee area residents attending the festivities along with the two little beauties below who proudly dislpayed their gifts for the Muscogee Nation News.*

IAIA in Sante Fe Granted New Status

Unique Smithsonian-type federally chartered status was granted to the Institute of American Indian Arts in Sante Fe, NM when President Reagan recently signed into law the Educational Amendment Act of 1986. IAIA will become a free standing institution similiar in its organization and management to the Smithsonian Institute. "The current success stories of IAIA prove that by removing unnecessary government barriers, we can tap the special talents and resources of Native Americans and provide them with an opportunity for self-determination and quality self education," stated NM Senator Pete Domenici.

All current functions of the Institute of American Indian Arts will be incorporated into a new and expanded "Institute for Native American Culture and Arts Development" (INACAD). A one-and-a-half to two year transition period will be needed to achieve the new status, and the current Board of Regents are expected to remain in place for the next 6 to 9 months.

The college will be funded for the current fiscal year by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), but in October 1987, IAIA will receive direct, line-item funding from the United States Congress. At that time a far stronger, far more realistic budget of $4.million will be provided to the Institute to expedite new and developing changes at the school. "This is something we have looked forward to for a long time. It means that Indians will be running this institution and will be responsible for its programming," said G. Peter Jamison, Chairman of IAIA's present Board of Regents and a Seneca Indian from New York state.

"Our primary goal," stated Senator Domenici," is to give the Institute of American Indian Arts a new lease on life in 3 basic steps. First, we give it a new charter similar to the one establishes the Smithsonian Institute. Secondly, we organize the fragmented parts of current government programs into a cohesive and easily identifiable institution. And thirdly, we free the decision making operation from government control." The institute's new charter specifies that IAIA will remain in Santa Fe in an atmosphere perfect for the blending of Native American art and culture within an established art community. The changes provided by the new law allow IAIA to retain its fully accredited status with the North Central Association.

The President of the United States in several months will appoint a new 19 member Board of Trustees for IAIA. This Board will govern the Institute with full authority to hire all personnel and to make legal contracts on behalf of the Institute. This new legal status for IAIA gives added strength to the Tax-exempt status of IAIA under 501 (c) (3) of the IRS code which has been in full force and effects at IAIA since November 1974. Because of the reluctance of donors to give to a BIA operated faculity, efforts were made by U.S. Senators Domenici, Melcher, Kennedy, Andrews, Goldwater, Inouye, DeConcini, Matsunaga, Cochran, Burdick, and Bingaman to pass legislation removing governmental restrictions on private and corporate donations to a program of proven merit. "The bill has been sought by those donors who will now be more confident that their gifts will be used as they desire for the benefit of Indian Culture and Art," Domenici emphasized. Donors will now know that their contributions will go directly to IAIA, and not to the BIA which will temporarily continue to oversee the Institute.

The new status of the Institute will allow for the strengthening of current offerings and will provide for the expansion of the program to any level and area deemed appropriate by its Trustees. Possibilities for bachelor and master degree programs exist as future development of the college is redefined. Such planning would also include commitments to build new permanent facilities to house the institute.

The Institute currently serves under 250 junior college students. Native American students (Aleut, Eskimo and American Indian) who can document being one-quarter blood members of one of the federally recognized Indian tribes receive a full scholarship for tuition, room and board at IAIA. Budget restrictions have not allowed for the hiring of a recruiter for the college, and the school has relied instead of its word-of-mouth repution. The institute will accept Canadian Indians and some foreign and non-Indian students provided they pay their own expenses.

MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 27, 1986

Invocation: Jonas Dunson
Call To Order: Carney Roberts, Speaker
Roll Call: Twenty-Seven Members were present, one absent, Dan Barnett. The roll call was taken and a quorum was declared. The Speaker advised that all business transacted during this session would be valid and would be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws. The roll call was as follows, twenty seven present and one absent.
READING OF THE MINUTES: The Chair entertained a motion to approve the following minutes: June 28, Regular Scheduled, July 8th, Extra-Ordinary Session, July 26th, Quarterly Session, August 23, Regular Scheduled Meeting, September 2nd, Special Session. A motion was made by Stacy and seconded by Johnson Buck to approve the minutes as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-six in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions. Motion Carried. The minutes were approved as read.
ORDER OF BUSINESS:
1. **Old Business.** Veto Messages-Returning
NCA 86-39 with Objections
NCA 86-41 with Objections
NCA 86-42 with Objections
The Chair entertained discussion. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Kamp to suspend the reading of the veto message and with no further consideration by the National Council.
(Veto Message) Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Two in Favor, Four Against, No Abstentions, those being against, Roy Bear, Johnson Buck, Robert Buck, and Leah Stacy. Motion Carried. The veto message were suspended from being and there shall not be any further consideration on these veto-message by the National Council.
9A. A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Approving an Attorney Contract with George Almerigi, Attorney at Law.
BIll 9A was introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) National Council by the Request of the Principal Chief and Assigned by the Speaker to the Committee on Business & Governmental Services. The BIll was postponed from the August 30th Regular Scheduled Meeting and is to be considered during the September 26th Session.
The Bill was read and considered as follows:
Section 101. The Tribal Attorney Contract between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and George Almerigi, Attorney at Law is hereby ratified by the Muscogee Nation effective October 1, 1986 to June 30, 1987.
The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion.
A motion was made by Johnson Buck and seconded by Clark to approve Bill 9A as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Ten in favor, Sixteen Against No Abstentions, Those being against, Roy Bear, Larry Bible, Kenneth Childers, Helen Chupco, Irene Cleghorn, Delbert Dunn, Betty Foster, Joe Fox, Robert Hardridge, Frank Kamp, Sandy McIntosh, Mickey Primeaux, Leah Stacy, Alexander Thomas, Earl Wheeler, Jerry Wilson.
MOTION DID NOT CARRY. BILL 9A was not approved and shall be recorded as such.

9B A Bill to be introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on September 26, 1986, by Request of Principal Chief and assigned by the Speaker to the Committee of the Whole; and with the Committees Recommendation of a DO PASS. The bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. FINDINGS. The National Council finds that: A. NCA 82-11 provides for the programing of interest from Dockets 169, 272, 277 and 309-74 in a series of Three-Year Plans. B. The Office of the Treasury has estimated interest revenues for the Fiscal Years 1987, 1988 and 1989. C. It is the purpose of this Ordinance to establish categories for expenditures of these revenues for Fiscal Year 1987, 1988 and 1989. ***Section 102 Definitions. The categorical definitions for this plan shall be: CATEGORY AND DEFINITIONS A. TRIBAL GOVERNMENT:*** The National Council and Secretary, the Office of the Principal Chief, the Supreme Court and Inferior Courts, the Citizenship and Election Boards and other officers established by Ordinance. ***B. Tribal Government:*** Program established by Ordinance to promote the health, safety, welfare and rights and other needs of the Muscogee (Creek) people. ***C. Economic Development:*** Tribal & Community projects and enterprises which provide income and employment for the tribal entity, as approved by ordinance. ***D. Social Welfare:*** (1) 33% of annual amount for Emergency Funds for eligible Muscogee (Creek) Indians according to guidelines established by Ordinance; (2) 67% of annual amount for Social Welfare financial assistance for Muscogee (Creek) Indians who are fifty (50) years of age or older, according to guidelines established by Ordinance. ***E. Higher Education.*** Scholarships to colleges and universities for Muscogee (Creek) Indians, according to guidelines established by Ordinance.
Section 103 The percentage limits with estimated revenues, shall be as follows:

Appropriation	*Percent*	*FY-87*	*FY-88*	*FY-89*
	Limit	*30.5%*	*33%*	*36.5%*
Tribal Government	.30	343,125	371,250	410,625
Tribal Programs	.10	114,375	123,750	136,875
Economic Development	.30	343,125	371,250	410,625
Social Welfare	.20	228,750	247,500	273,750
Higher Education	.10	114,375	123,750	136,875
	1.00	**1,143,750**	**1,237,500**	**1,368,750**

Sections 104. Sections of NCA 82-11 which are not consistent with this legislation shall remain in affect. Section 105. Funds not expended from the current plan expiring at the end of the FY -1986 shall be principal. The Bill (9B) having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Bible and seconded by Clark to approve Bill 9B. Discussion was entertained and held. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Stacy to amend Section 103 (C) Economic Development and (D) Social Welfare by reversing the percentages and the dollars figures, thereby making (C) Economic Development 20% and (D) Social Welfare 30% and dollars figures reversed. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken as follows: Fifteen in favor, eleven against and no abstentions. Voting Yes were: Bear, Bible, Childers, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Hardridge, Kamp, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy, Wheeler, Williams and Wilson; Voting No were: Buck, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Johnson, Foster, Hale, Larney, Little, Miller and Thomas.Motion carried. The amendment shall be reflected in the final draft of Bill (9b). A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Primeaux to amend Bill 9B by adding a new section 106 to read; "An annual audit shall be required and the National Council shall select the firm to conduct and audit. The auditor shall be required to report to the National Council." The authority of the National Council in selecting an auditor shall be found in NCA 81-105, Section 315 which reads "The Controller shall receive an auditor commissioned by the National Council, and shall thereafter submit to questions in Council upon the report of any Commissioned auditor." Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken as follows: Fourteen against, twelve in favor, and no abstentions. Voting No were: Bear, Bible, Buck, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Larney, Johnson, Hardridge, Hale, Foster, Miller, Wheeler and Williams; those voting yes were: Childers, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Kamp, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas and Wilson. Motion did not carry. The question was called for the approval of Bill 9B as amended. (9B) Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Nineteen in Favor, Six Against, One Abstention, those against: Johnson Buck, Irene Cleghorn, Joe Fox, Frank Kamp, Sandy McIntosh, Mickey Primeaux. Abstaining was Jerry Wilson.
MOTION CARRIED. BILL 9B was approved as amended.
9C. A BILL of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation introduced into the National Council of the Muscogee Nation by request of the Principal Chief and assigned by the Speaker of the Committee of the Whole and placed on the Agenda with a recommendation of a "DO PASS".
The BILL 9C entitled "Appropriating the Tribal Budget for Fiscal Year 1986, was read and considered as follows:
Section 100. Be it enacted by the Muscogee Nation in Council Assembled:
Section 101. The Tribal Budget for Fiscal Year 1987 has been properly prepared by the Principal Chief and duly considered by the National Council and is hereby authorized and appropriated as follows:

THREE YEAR PLAN

A. TRIBAL GOVERNMENT	
1. Executive Branch	
(a) Office of the Principal sub total -	**$105,594**
(b) Office of Justice sub total -	**40,755**
(c) Citizenship Board - sub total -	**40,755**
(d) Election Board - sub total -	**51,756**
2. NATIONAL COUNCIL	
(a) Staff Costs -	
Secretary -	**21,440**
Fringe -	**6,540**
(b) Member Costs & Operating Expense -	**78,723**
3. JUDICIAL SYSTEM	
(a) Court Clerk (1/2 Time) -	**7,957**
Fringe	**2,427**
SUB TOTAL —	**10,384**
TOTAL TRIBAL GOVERNMENT —	**$343,125**

B. Tribal Programs - $114,375
Programs established by Ordinance to promote health, safety, welfare, rights and other needs of the Muscogee (Creek) people.
C. Economic Development......$343,125.
Tribal and Community projects & enterprises which provide income and employment for the tribal entity, as approved by Ordinance.
D. Social Welfare......$228,750.
(1) 33% of annual amount for Emergency Funds for eligible Indians according to guidelines established by Ordinance.
(2) 67% of annual amount for Social Welfare Financial Assitance for Muscogee (Creek) Indians who are sixty years of age or older, according to guidelines established by Ordinance.
E. Higher Education......$114,375.
Scholarships to colleges, universitites, and vocational schools for Muscogee (Creek) Indians, according to guidelines established by Ordinance.
TOTAL THREE—YEAR PLAN ....$1,143,750.
1. Education-Scholarship Assistance.......$214,191.
Scholarships to colleges, universities,and vocational schools for exceptional Muscogee (Creek) Students and revolving student loans.
2. Economic Development.......$21,105.
Development of tribal enterprises, industry and land purchases from which the tribe may realize a production return.
3. Welfare and Tribal Burial.......$11,755.
Grants in certain areas of welfare and medical aid to tribal members who are without other sources of assistance.
4. Attorney Fees and Expense......$36,649.
Funds to pay legal counsel in accordance with contracts approved by the Principal Chief, National Council,and Department of the Interior.
6. Consumer Loans......$2,978.
Program to meet those needs not available from commerical credit resources.
7. Tribal Claim Development......$48,876.
Funds available for expenditure on the development of Tribal claims.
Total Docket 275......$358,588.
Docket 21/276
1. Capital Acquisition.......$902,000
TOTAL TRIBAL BUDGET..........$2,404,338.
Section 102. Funds authorized in Section 101 are appropriated from tribal funds as follows:
THREE YEAR PLAN
A thru H: 9793/2624-9988/2624-99781/2624/01-9982/2624/01-02-All Three Year Plans.

DOCKET 275

1: 9477/9977/2612	Docket 275-Scholarship
2. 9477/9977/2614	Docket 275-Economic Development
3. 9977/2618	Docket 275-Tribal Welfare
4. 9977/2627	Docket 275-Fee & Expense
5. 9977/2620	Docket 275-Program Development
6. 9477/9977/2634	Docket 275-Consumer Loans
7. 9477/2644	Docket 275-Tribal Claims.

September 27. Minutes Continued

Docket 21/276

1. 9282/2615 Docket 21/276-Land & Building
2. 9782/2615 Docket 21/276-Land & Building
3. 9777/2615 Docket 21/276-Land & Building
4. 9277/2615 Docket 21/276-Land & Building.

Section 103. Total Appropriations in this Ordinance may not be modified or changed except by Ordinance. However, the Principal Chief is authorized to modify line items within subtotals under A. TRIBAL GOVERNMENT, (1) Executive Branch" without further legislative action.

Section 104. Appropriations are effective October 1, 1986 through September 30, 1987.

Section 105. Upon amendment of this Ordinance, the Secretary shall be required to compile an amended version of this Ordinance, and the Speaker and the Principal Chief shall be required to execute original signatures to the amended versions of this Ordinance.

The BILL having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Pat Clark and seconded by Tony Hale to approve BILL 9-C. Discussion was entertained and held as follows:

A motion was made by Jerry Wilson and seconded by Leah Stacy to amend Section 101 (A) (1) (C) and (D) by reversing the percentages and dollar figures". Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Five in Favor, One Against, No Abstentions. Those being against; Robert Buck. MOTION CARRIED. Amendment 1 was approved as read and shall be reflected in the final draft.

3. Judicial Branch.

A. Court Clerk....$7,500.00
B. Fringe Benefits ea. 30.5.........$2,278.00
C. Operating Expense................$7,558.00
TOTAL JUDICIAL BRANCH...............$17,345.00
TOTAL TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.............$343,125.00

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Seventeen Against, Seven in Favor, Two Abstentions. Those against were: Roy Bear, Larry Bible, Johnson Buck, Robert Buck, Helen Chupco, Pat Clark, Irene Cleghorn, Delbert Dunn, Betty Foster, Tony Hale, Robert Hardridge, Clyde Johnson, Richard Larney, Dorothy Miller, Alexander Thomas, Earl Wheeler, Barton Williams. Those Abstaining being: Kenneth Childers and Harley Little.

MOTION DID NOT CARRY. Amendment no. 2 was not approved and shall be recorded as such. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded, for the approval of BILL 9-C, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Seventeen in Favor, Nine Against, No Abstentions. Those being against: Jonas Dunson, Joe Fox, Frank Kamp, Harley Little, Sandy McIntosh, Mickey Primeaux, Leah Stacy, Jerry Wilson.

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 9-C was approved as amended, and shall be recorded as such.

9D. A BILL to be introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 27th day of September; introduced by request of the Principal Chief and assigned by the Speaker to the Committee of the Whole; and taken to the floor with a recommendation of a DO PASS. A Bill 9D entitled "Amending Tribal Ordinance NCA 86-26 entitled Providing Authorization for Tribal Contracts to Provide Services and Programs for FY-87. The Bill was read and considered as follows: **Section 101 Tribal Ordinance 86-26 is hereby amended at Section 153 (A) THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (1) Department of Interior by adding the following FY-87 BIA Programs as follows: Agriculture Program, Aid to Tribal Government, Credit and Finance, Minerals and Mining, Natural Resources, Real Estate Appraisal Program, Real Estate Services, Water Resources, Basic Government Development, Other Employment Assistance, Community Services General, Social Services, Higher Education, Adult Education, Adult Vocational Training, JOM Early Childhood, Eufaula Dormitory, Tribal Court, Other Rights Protection. Section 102.** The Secretary shall compile an amended version of Tribal Ordinance NCA86-26; the Speaker and the Principal Chief shall be required to execute original signatures to the amended versions. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Richard Larney and seconded by Chupco to approve Bill 9D. Discussion was held as follows: A motion was made by Fox and seconded by Primeaux to add a new section Section 103. No money shall be spent from Line Item Indirect Cost until an Indirect Cost Budget has been presented and approved by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Council. Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Thirteen in favor, tweleve against and two abstentions. Those voting No were: Bear, Buck, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Foster, Hale, Johnson, Larney, Miller, Roberts, Williams, and Wheeler. Those voting Yes were: Childers, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Hardridge, Kamp, McIntosh, Primeaux, Thomas and Wilson. Those abstaining were: Bible and Little. Motion Did Not Carry (By majority vote). Upon motion for the approval of Bill 9D having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty One in favor, three against and one abstention. Those voting Yes were: Bear, Bible, Buck, Buck, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Foster, Fox, Hale, Hardridge, Johnson, Kamp, Larney, Little, Miller, Thomas, Wheeler, and Williams. Those voting No were: McIntosh, Primeaux, and Stacy. Wilson abstaining. Motion Carried. Bill 9D An Amendment to NCA 86-26 was approved as read.

9E A Bill to be introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 27th day of September by request of the Principal Chief; assigned by the Speaker to the Committee on Community Services, coming out on the floor with a recommendation of DO PASS. 9E A Bill supporting the Cherokee Nation Becoming a Direct Distribution Agent to Indian Tribal Programs Participating in the USDA Food Distribution Program, was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Findings, The National Council finds that: A. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is federally recognized Indian Tribe, organized in accordance with a Constitution approved by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and ratified by the constitutency; B. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation presently operates a Food Distribution Program under a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture and is currently receiving distribution services from the State of Oklahoma and C. The Muscogee(Creek) Nation recognizes that the Cherokee Nation and the Potawatomi Indian Tribes are attempting to provide the same distribution services that the State of Oklahoma provides and D. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation recognizes the spirit of self-determination where Indian tribes can provide services formerly provided by other under P.L. 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination Act; and **Section 102** The Muscogee (Creek) Nation formally requests the assistance of the Cherokee Nation and the Potawatomi Indian Tribe in receiving shipments of commodity foods; and **Section 103** The Muscogee (Creek) Nation endorses and supports the efforts of the Creek Nation Food Distribution Program to seek and negotiate for Commodity Food Shipments from the Cherokee Nation and Potawatomi Indian Tribe; and **Section 104.** The Muscogee (Creek) Nation hereby wishes to cease its association with the State of Oklahoma in the delivery of commodity foods and now wishes to receive these services directly from the Cherokee Nation and Potawatomi Indian Tribe. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Primeaux and seconded by Dunn to approve Bill 9E. Discussion was entertained and held, with Bonnie Gibson Manager of Creek Nation Food Distribution Program gave a brief summary of the proposed program. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty five in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion Carried, Bill 9E was approved as read. A motion was made by Bible and seconded by Dunson to amend this Sessions Agenda by adding 9I; 9k; 9L and 9M for consideration to the Agenda for consideration at this time and striking items 9N, 9O and 9P from the agenda completely. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being; eighteen in favor, seven against and no abstentions. Voting Yes were: Bear, Bible, Buck, Buck, Childers, Clark, Cleghorn, Larney, Johnson, Hale, Foster, Dunson, Dunn, Miller, Primeaux, Thomas, Wheeler, and Williams; Voting No were: Chupco, Kamp, Fox, Little, McIntosh, Stacy and Wilson. Barnett, absent, Hardridge was out. Motion carried, the agenda was amended as stated.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

9I A Bill introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 27th day of September 1986; introduced by Kamp and assigned to the Commitee of the Whole for Consideration. The recommendation of the Committee of the Whole was to place it on the agenda for consideration. 9I A Bill Amending Tribal Ordinance NCA 86-18

Ordinance NCA 86-16 "Authorizing the Construction of a Community Center for Use by the Eufaula Indian Community. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Tribal Ordinance NCA 86-18 is hereby further amended at Section 101 by adding the item "C" "D" and "E" to read as follows: C. The Eufaula Indian Community has accepted bids from five (5) contractors and has voted to approve the bid of Chester Scott's $14,600.00 to demolish the existing dilapidated building and level the ground utilizing local unemployed Creek Indian labor and the Creek Nation bulldozer and will have the job completed within thirty days after this amendment becomes a Tribal Ordinance, with starting time to commence within one week - after the approval of this Ordinance. D. The Eufaula Indian Community has identified the cost of permanent major appliances needed to facilitate a nutrition program in the newly constructed center to be approximately $17,000.00 and will incorporate the permanent appliances into the design of the building and will install them at the completion of the building. E. The Eufaula Indian Community has taken bids from three (3) major contractors and has approved Morton Buildings, bid to construct a 100' x 54' Community Center at a cost of $113,125.00 with construction to start thirty days after the approval of this Ordinance. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Stacy and seconded by Larney to approve Bill 9I as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been made and seconded roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty four in favor, none against and one abstention. Hale - abstaining; Barnett - absent. Motion Carried: Bill 9I was approved and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.

9J - A Bill introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on this 27th day of September , 1986; introduced by request of Principal Chieg via the office of Gaming Commission; the Bill was assigned to the Committee on Business and Governmental Services; by the Speaker, with the Bill coming out of that Committee with a recommendation of "DO PASS". 9J - A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Appropriating Funds for the Operation of the Office of Gaming Commission for the 1987 Fiscal Year. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Findings: The National Council finds that the Office of the Gaming Commission was established by Ordinance and has successfully fulfilled the regulatory functions of that Office. Further, it is in the best interest of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to appropriate funds for the continued operation of the Office of the Gaming Commission. **Section 102.** The National Council hereby appropriates Bingo Revenues for the operation of the Office of the Gaming Commission during the 1987 Fiscal Year.

Salaries - $142,951.00
Fringe Benefits - $43,600.00
Operating Expense - $41,826.00
TOTAL — $ 228,377.00

Section 103. The Gaming Commission may, with the approval of the Principal Chief modify the bugeted amounts within the limits of the approved appropriation. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Johnson to approve Bill 9J as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty two in favor, three against, and no abstentions. Those voting No were: Dunn, McIntosh and Cleghorn; Voting yes were: Bear, Bible, Buck, Buck, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Dunson, Foster, Hale, Fox, Johnsn, Kamp, Larney, Little, Miller, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas, Wheeler, Williams and Wilson. Hardridge - out; Barnett - absent. Motion carried, Bill 9J was approved as read.

9K A Bill to be introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on this 27th of September, 1986. Introduced by request of the Principal Chief, via the Division of Community Services, and assigned to the Committee of the Whole; This Bill was placed on the Agenda for consideration as follows: 9K A Bill Authorizing and Programming and Appropriating Fiscal Year 1987 Tribal Funds for the Purpose of "Tribal Programs". Section 101. Findings The National Council finds that: A. The Plan for tribal funds allocates $114,375 for the purpose of "Tribal Programs during the 1987 fiscal year. B. The Three Year Plan allows "Tribal Programs" funds to be expended to implement, expand, and supplement programs through matching shares in areas which promotes the health, safety, welfare, rights, and other needs of the Muscogee (Creek) people. C. Due to limitation of federal funding for the Head Start programs in Eufaula, Sapulpa, and Yeager, it is necessary to employ Teachers Aides to maximize the quality of education for the children, and to comply with Performance Standards required through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. D. Federal regulations require that tribal governments use independent sources to match federal funds granted in the operation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Food Distribution Program. The commodity program currently provides donated food to approximately 2,500 Indian people within the tribal boundaries. **Section 102.** In accordance with the findings, the "Tribal Programs" for Fiscal Year 1987 shall be authorized and funded as follows: A. Head Start Program - $40,284.00; B. Food Distribution Program - $74,091; Total $114,375. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Bible and seconded by Dunn to approve the Bill as read. Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty Four in favor, none against, one abstention that being Stacy, Barnett - absent; Hardridge - out. Motion carried, The Bill was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws.

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September 27, Minutes Continued

9-L A Bill to be introduced into the National Council on this 27th day of September; introduced by request of the Principal Chief.

9-L A Bill Authorizing, Appropriating Tribal Funds for the FY-1987 Tribal Welfare and Social Welfare Programs. The Bill was read and considered as follows:

Section 100. Be it enacted by the Muscogee Nation in Council Assembled:

Section 101. Findings. The National Council finds that:

A. The 1987 Tribal Budget allocates $228,750 for Social Welfare.

B. The 1987 Tribal Budget allocates $11,755 for Welfare and Tribal Burial.

C. A need exists for services in the areas of elderly nutrition, tribal burial assistance, and emergency disaster assistance.

Section 102. The Social Welfare Program for services in the areas of elderly nutrition, authorized and budgeted as follows:

A. Elderly Nutrition Program.---$121,750.00
B. Tribal Burial Assistance.---$107,000.00
Total Budget.---$228,750.00

Section 103. The Principal Chief is authorized to structure the program to assure that minimum of 67% of the total Social Welfare funds are allocated to serve elderly citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Section 104. The Welfare Tribal Burial Program for the 1987 Fiscal Year is hereby authorized and budgeted as follows:

A. Food for Funerals.---$10,700
B. Emergency Disaster Assistance.---$1,055
Total Budget.---$11,755

The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion.

A motion was made by Pat Clark and seconded by Larry Bible to approve BILL 9L.

Discussion was entertained and held.

A motion was made by Kenneth Childers and seconded by Tony Hale to amend Section 101 (A) by deleting $228,750 and adding in its place the word "funds".

Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Three in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions.

MOTION TO AMEND BILL 9-L at Section 101 (A) CARRIED.

Upon a motion having been made and seconded to approve BILL 9—L; a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Three in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions.

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 9-L was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

*Note: A verbal agreement between the Council and Mr. Breshears, that this BILL be submitted as amended, however it would be amended at a later date, by Ordinance, to justify the dollar figure amendment made in the BILL 9-C "Appropriating the Tribal Budget for FY-87", Section 101. (D)-Social Welfare which was changed from $228,750 to $343,125 leaving a dollar figure of $114,375 unearmarked.

9—M A BILL to be introduced into the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; introduced by request of the Principal Chief and assigned to the Committee of the Whole.

9-M A BILL entitled Authorizing, Programming, and Appropriating Fiscal Year 1987 Tribal Funds for Scholarships to Tribal Citizens. The BILL was read and considered as follows:

Section 100. Be it enacted by the Muscogee Nation in Council Assembled:

Section 101. FINDINGS. The National Councils finds that:

A. Higher Education and vocational training or tribal citizens are priorities of this tribal government.

B. The Plan for tribal funds allocates $114,375 for "Higher Education".

C. Docket 275 allocates $217,191 for "Education-Scholarships Assistance" which will assist exceptional students.

D. The National Council has approved guidelines for both the "Higher Education" and "Education-Scholarships Assistance Program."

Section 102. Under existing guidelines, funding for the "Higher Education" program is programmed as follows for the 1987 Fiscal Year:

Scholarhips Colleges Universities---$86,475.00
Scholarships Vo-Technical---26,400.00
Office Supplies-----1,500.00
Total Budget----$114,375.00

Section 103. Of the $217,191 available for "Education-Scholarship Assistance for Fiscal Year 1987, $750,500 is hereby appropriated and programmed under existing guidelines as follows:

Scholarships-----$70,000.00
Office Supplies---500.00
Total Budget-----$70,500.00

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions.

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 9M was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

A motion was made by Harley Little and seconded by Betty Foster to amend the Agenda for Consideration.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty one in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions.

MOTION CARRIED. THE AGENDA WAS AMENDED.

A RESOLUTION to be introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) National Council this 27th day of September, assigned to the Committee of Whole entitled "A Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Commending the City of Tulsa for the commenoration of the Creek Council Oak Tree", was read and considered as follows:

Section 100. Be it enacted by the Muscogee Nation in Council Assembled:

Section 101. This Resolution shall be cited as "Commending the City of Tulsa for the commemoration of the Creek Council Oak Tree located in the City of Tulsa.

Section 102. Findings. The National Council finds that in 1828 the first Creeks to come from Georgia to Oklahoma used the location of the Creek Council Oak Tree as a tribal meeting area.

The city of Tulsa proposes the making of Sunday, October 26, 1986 to be the official commemoration date of the Creek Council Oak Tree in Tulsa.

Further, the City of Tulsa would issue an official commemorative medallion and poster for the event; and said event shall become an annual happening.

FURTHERMORE, the National Council finds that the official commemoration will create an atmosphere of harmony and good fellowship among the Creek Nation and the City of Tulsa.

Section 103. NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the National Council approves of the City of Tulsa's plan for an Official Commemoration of the Creek Council Oak Tree and commends the city of Tulsa for coordinating this event and contributing time and hard work to make this a successful event.

The resolution having been read, the chair entertained a motion.

A motion was made by Tony Hale and seconded by Clyde Johnson to approve the Resolution as read.

9P A Bill to be introduced into the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 27th day of September, 1986 was introduced by Chupco and assigned to the Committee of the Whole. 9P a Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Appropriating funds to retain and compensate a Legislative Clerk for the National Council on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. The National Council finds that: A. There is a need for a Legislative Clerk to be assigned to serve in the Office of the National Council. B. It is the intent of this Ordinance to appropriate "Creek Nation Bingo Revenue Funds" to retain the position of Legislative Clerk and to continue the employment of the Legislative Clerk as employed under the same conditions and term of Executive Order 85-01 (A). **Section 102.** The National Council hereby authorizes, programs and appropriates, from the Creek Nation Bingo Revenue/Funds Account $14,575 (fourteen thousand five hundred and seventy-five dollars) in addition to all finge benefits at the established rate of 30.5 which is $4,446 (four thousand four hundred and forty six-dollars) due the Legislative Clerk on a one time basis for a term of one year. **Section 103.** The Principal Chief is hereby authorizied to program and expend "Creek Nation Bingo Revenue Funds" to retain the position of Legislative Clerk and the employee now serving in that position effective October 1, 1986. The bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Johnson Buck and second by Foster to approve the Bill as read. Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Nineteen in favor, none against, and no abstentions: Those voting Yes were: Bear, Buck, Buck, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Foster, Hale, Johnson, Kamp, Larney, Little, Miller, Primeaux, Thomas, Wheeler and Wilson. Bible, Hardridge, McIntosh, Fox, Stacy and Williams were out. Motion carried Bill 9P was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

OTHER BUSINESS: NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, ETC. Planning Session, October 16, 1986, 6:00 p.m. Commemoration will be held on Sunday in Tulsa, all members are requested to attend.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned by unanimous decision.

October 25, Quarterly Session

Invocation

Call to Order: Carney Roberts, Speaker, National Council

Roll Call: A quroum was declared with twenty-six members present, one absent. Any and all business transacted during this session will be considered valid and shall be recorded into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.

QUARTERLY REPORTS: Gary Breshears, Executive Director gave the quarterly reports, with the Managment Staff being present to answer questions.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. OLD BUSINESS: Message of the Principal Chief Returning NCA 86-52 to the National Council with Objections. The BILL was read and considered as follows: I, Claude, A. Cox, Principal Chief, do hereby return NCA 86-52 entitled "Amending NCA 86-18 Authorizing the Construction of a Community Center for Use by the Eufaula Indian Community" to the National Council with the following Objections:

OBJECTION: The Legislation attempts to assign Executive Branch authorities and functions to a Community which are vested solely in the Office of the Principal Chief by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution.

The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation vests executive powers within the Office of the Principal Chief. These powers clearly include the phases of the acquisitions process for property and facilities.

In the case of the Eufaula Community Building, this office, upon the receipt and approval of a community operational plan which addresses the utility payments and other day-to-day costs of the facility, will initiate the bidding based upon approved speciifications. Further, upon acceptance of a qualified bid, the Executive Branch will oversee all stages of the construction. At completion of the project, a use agreement will be executed with the community.

RECOMMENDATION: Since this office has the constitutional authority for implementation of the acquisition process, no further legislative action is required.

Therefore, in accordance with the Constitution, I hereby return NCA 86-52 unsigned as a VETO.

Sincerely, Claude A. Cox, Principal Chief

The veto message having been read, the chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Larney and seconded by Buck to "Let the veto stand".

Discussion was entertained and held.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty in Favor, Five Against, No Abstentions: Those being against: Robert Buck, Joe Fox, Frank Kamp, Sandy McIntosh, Jerry Wilson.

MOTION CARRIED. The veto message returning NCA 86-59 remains as a "VETO" and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.

10-A BILL Declaring Certain Actions of the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Null and Void.

10-B A BILL of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Repealing NCA 86-34 Dated July 14, 1986.

A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Johnson to postpone Bill 10-A.

A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Dunson to amend the motion previously made by adding 10-B for postponement in addition to 10-A.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded as follows: Discussion was entertained and held.;

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken as follows:

Twenty-Four in favor, one Against, No Abstentions. Those being against; Sandy McIntosh.

MOTION CARRIED. BIL 10-A & B was postponed until the next meeting.

10-C A BILL Amending Tribal Ordinance NCA 81-04 Establishing Regular & Special Session.

The BILL was read and considered as follows:

Section 101. FINDINGS. The National Council finds that the November and December Regular Scheduled Meeting falls on a holiday week-end.

Section 102. The National Council hereby re-schedules the November and December meeting dates to November 22, 1986, and December 20, 1986, with both meetings commencing at the regular scheduled time of 10:00 a.m., in the auditorium of the Mound Building at the Tribal Capitol Complex, Okmulgee, Okla.

The Bill having been read and considered the Chair entertained a motion.

A motion was made by Primeaux and seconded by Williams to approve Bill 10-C as read.

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October Minutes Cont.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken as follows: Twenty Four in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions:

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 10—C was approved as read, and shall be recorded into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.

10-D A BILL of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation adopting an Economic Policy/Plan Act. The Bill was read and considered as follows:

Section 101. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds: A. That there is a need to adopt an economic policy/plan.

Section 102. POLICY/PLAN/GENERAL GOALS. The Muscogee Nation adopts the following statements which will serve as guidelines in carrying out tribal objectives concerning economic development.

THE MUSCOGEE NATION SHALL:

A. Develop and adopt an Overall Economic Development Plan review at least annually and up-date. The Plan will include the following elements, however are not limited.

1. An economic analysis of the tribal area and economic linkages.
2. A general study on industrialization and current economic trends.
3. Suggested strategy on land base utilization (including individual and tribal).
4. Suggested economic activities which may be potential for tribal participation.
5. Summary of Past Development Efforts.

B. The Nation intends to develop a Tribal Corporation to manage and operate tribal venture projects.

C. The Nation intends to develop profit making enterprises which will produce and generate revenue sources for community service programs.

D. All business development proposal shall include the following items and shall be reviewed by competent and knowledgeable legal and accounting professionals to insure compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws:

1. Description of the Business Venture.
a. Business Concept.
b. Product/Service Description
c. Key Production Factors
d. Location/Physical Facilities
e. Status Report of Existing Business if Acquisition
f. Tribal Benefits Anticipated.
g. Relationship to Tribal Economic Development Strategy.
2, Market Analysis
a. Market Description
b. General Market Trends
c. Competition
d. Market Projection
3. Proposed . . . . Business Structure
a. Form of Organization/Ownership
b. Management Plan
c. Training Plan
4.Financial Analysis
a. Startup Budget-Use of Funds
b. Structure of Financing-Source of Funds
c. Three-Year Projected Income Statement
d. Projected Balance Sheet
e. Three-Year Projected Cash Flow Statement
5. Supported Documents. Copy of any agreements
c. Cost Estimates on Equipment, Building Land, Inventory, etc
d. Other information

E. Promote industrial revenue bonds on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

F. To develop a small business training, technical, and financial assistance center for Creek entrepreneurs.

G. To promote the organization of a Creek Business Chamber of Commerce.

H. To promote Joint Venture Projects.

I. To develop a tax base for the Nation through the taxation of tribal owned business and other government transactions.

J. To develop and adopt a commerical code.

The BILL having been read, the Chair entertained a motion.

A motion was made Wilson and seconded by Little to approve the BILL 10-D as read.

Discussion was entertained and held.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Two in Favor, One Abstention, Two Against; Those being against: Alexander Thomas and Earl Wheeler.

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 10-D "Adopting an Economic Policy & Plan Act was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws.

10- Bill of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Establishing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Audit Law. **(SEE SECTION 102.)**

The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Little to approve the BILL 10-D as read.

Discussion was entertained and held.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call votge was taken with the results being: Twenty-Two in Favor, One Abstention, Two Against: Those being against: Earl Wheeler, Alexander Thomas

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 10-D "Adopting an Economic Policy & Plan Act was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws.

10-A BILL of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Establishing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Audit Law. The BILL was read and considered as follows:

Section 101. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation finds; A. That a law is needed regarding the auditing procedures of tribal trust funds under control of the Nation. That such a law would provide a check and balance system and strengthen the creditablity of tribal government. The auditors of the Nation should meet certain standards established by Ordinance; that auditors should be selected by the legislative branch of government; and that auditors should audit reports and management letters to the legislative branch.

Section 103. OFFICIAL TITLE OF LAW. This article may be cited as the "Muscogee (Creek) Nation Audit Law".

Section 104. DEFINITIONS. The term "Muscogee Nation" as used herein shall include any agency, department, program, enterprise, authority, or any other legal entity under the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Government. The term "auditor" as used herein means a person or partnership who makes an audit and prepares a report theron as provided by laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Section 105. ANNUAL AUDIT REQUIRED—OTHER AUTHORIZED. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall provide for and cause to be made an annual audit of the Financial affairs and transactions of each fund under the control of the nation for each fiscal year. Provide, all federal and state funds shall be audited in compliance with contract or grant agreements. Such audits or audits shall be made at the end of the fiscal year; provide, however, the National Council may require that audits be made at more frequent intervals.

Section 106. STANDARDS—QUALIFICATIONS OF ACCOUNTANTS—LIABILITY INSURANCE.The audit of each fund shall be made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards as defined by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All Accountants or partnerships of accountants, before entering into audit contracts required under this article, shall satisfy the National Council that such accountant or at least one partner of a partnership of accountants is a resident of the State of Oklahoma with two (2) years of public accounting experience and is currently maintaining an office in the State of Oklahoma. Provided, such accountants shall make an application for approval by the National Council for the ensuring year on or before the first day of March for each calendar year. Each accountant are licensed by the State Board of Accountancy before being placed on the list of approved auditors. Provide, further, that all accountants entering into audit contracts carry a minimum of two-hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($250,000) accountants professional libility insurance or the total amount of the budget being audited, whichever is less. Any such policy may exclude from coverage the first One-thousand dollars ($1,000) of any loss incurred. **Section 107 Expenses.** The expense of audits required by this article, whether order by the National Council or the Principal Chief, shall be paid by the Nation and by the Program budget for which the audit is made. It shall be the duty of the National Council and the Principal Chief to make provisions for payment of said expenses. **Section 108 Audit Reports-Contents** Each report on audit of funds under control of the Nation shall contain at least the following: A. A statement of the Scope of Examination; B. The auditors opinions as to whether the audit was made in accordance with generally accpeted auditing standards hereto established: C. The auditors opinion as to whether the financial statements included in the audit's report present fairly the results of the operations during the period audited; D. The auditors opinion as to whether the financial statements accompanying the audit report were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to tribal governments and in accordance with the laws of the Nation; E. The reason or reasons an opinion is not rendered with respect to paragraph C & D in the event the auditor is unable to express an opinion with respect thereto: F. The auditors opinion as to whether the Nation's budget and disbursement procedures conform to the requirement of the ordinance of the Nation and to applicable Federal and State Laws; and G. Financial statements presented in the form and manner approved by the Nation so as to disclose the results of the operation of each fund under control of the Nation. **Section 109 Audit Reports-Time to Complete Distribution. A.** Each audit required by this Act shall be completed and the audit report thereon shall be submitted by the auditor to the National Council within six months after the close of the fiscal year of the Nation. B. One copy of the audit report shall be filed by the National Council in the Office of the Principal Chief. C. One of the audit report shall be maintained by the National Council as a public record for public inspection at all reasonable times at the Office of the National Council. All audit reports shall be kept at least five (5) years. D. One copy shall be forwarded to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. E. The National Council may make inquiries it deems necessary to determine that each agency is properly complying with this article. **Section 110. Examinlation of Reports-Deficiences** The National Council shall examine all reports submitted to it and shall determine whether said reports, comply with the provisions of this article. If the National Council finds that they have not complied with, the National Council shall notify the Principal Chief and the auditor who submitted said audit report by submitting to them a statement of deficiencies. If the deficiences are not corrected within a ninety (90) day time frame from the date of the statement of deficiencies, the National Council shall require another audit to be made in the manner provided for herein this Ordinance. **Section 111 False Statements In Reports-False Information Penalty** A. In any case where an accountant has knowingly issued an audit report, required under the provisions of this article, containing any false or misleading statements, the National Council shall report such violation in writing to the Judicial Branch and in the case of Certified Public Accountants, to the Oklahoma State Board of Accountancy. The National Council shall revoke their rights to perform such audits in the future. B. Any person who knowingly and willfully furnishes to the auditors or to employees any false or fraudulent information shall be deemed guilty of malfeasance, and upon conviction, the court shal information shall be deemed guilty of malfeasance, and upon conviction, the court shall enter judgement that such person so convicted shall be removed from office or employment from the Nation, with the exception of the Principal Chief who is subject to impeachment. **Section 112 Tribal Accounting systems and procedures** All accounting systems and procedures used by the National Council shall conform to general accepted accounting systems and procedures for governments. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Cleghorn to approve Bill 10-E as read. Upon a motion made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Sixteen in favor, nine against, no abstentions. Those voting Yes were: Barnett, Bear, Bible, Childers, Cleghorn, Kamp, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Hardridge, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Wheeler, Williams, Wilson. Those voting No were: Buck, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Foster, Hale, Larney, Johnson, and Thomas. Motion carried. Bill 10—E Establishing the Muscogee (Creek) Audit Law was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

10-F A bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Advising and Consenting to the Creation and Organization of the Executive Office of the Principal Chief, Establishing Certain Tribal Officers of, and Vesting the Appointment of all Tribal Officers within the Executive office in the Principal Chief, with the Advice and Consent of the National Council. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101 Tribal Ordinance NCA 81-13 is hereby repealed. **Section 102 Traditionally, Indian Tribes in general, and the various Tribes of the Muscogee Confederacy (Nation) in particular, awarded positions of responsibility and trust to tribal members who through past actions and services that they are worthy of holding positions of responsibility and trust should be nominated by the Principal Chief to the various positions on boards, councils and commissioners under the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Section 103** The National Council hereby advises and consents to the creation and organization of the Executive Office of the Principal Chief, as required by Article V, Section 2 of the Constitution of this Nation, an outline as follows:; A. Executive Office of the Principal Chief. (1) The following councils, commissions and boards may be established at any time by the Principal Chief through an Executive Order, provided, that the appointment shall receive the advise and consent of the National Council, and appointees to said boards, councils and commissions shall not be compensated in any way until they have been confirmed by the National Council. a. Council Economic Advisers, b. Comprehensive

October Minutes Cont.

Planing Commission, c. Domestic Council, d. Trust Property Council, e. Board of Citizen Appeals, f. Council on Wage and Personnel Relations, g. Council on Special Representation for Liason with other Governments. h. Muscogee (Creek) members on the Five Civilized Tribes Inter-Tribal Council. i. Citizenship Board. j. Election Board. k. Gaming Commissioner and Board. l. All other boards and council and commissions, which are now, or will at some future date be under the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. (2) Prior to any actions of the above councils, boards or commissioners as Tribal Authorities, an Ordinance of the Nation shall be required. (3) No person shall be allowed to hold a position on more than one (1) of the various boards, councils, or commissions under the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. (4) The Chairperson of each board, council or commission under the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, shall, at the quarterly meetings of the National Council, appear and make a quarterly report. (5) Each board, council or commission under the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek0 Nation shall be limited to one member from the district within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. **Section 104** The following Directors of Officers within the Executive Office of the Principal Chief shall be considered "Appointed Tribal Officers", and as such shall be required to receive the advice and consent of the National Council, and futher, said Directors as Appointed Tribal Officers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, shall be required to the oath of office. A. Office of the Controller: The Controller (An appointed officer), Director of Finance, Payroll Services, Investments, Tax Management, Cash Management, Accounting and Reporting B. Office of the Administration; Executive Office (An appointed Officer), Fiscal and Management Services, Budgets, Contracts, Management Information Systems, General Services, Personnel Property Control, Purchasing, Executive Archives, Records Management, Library, Personnel Services, The Muscogee Nation News, Communication & Graphic Services. C. Division of Tribal Affairs - Director of Tribal Affaris (An appointed Officer), Lighthorse, Economic research & Development, Comprehensive Planning, Realty; D. Division of Community Service (An Appointed Officer) Health Services, Environment Services, Social Services, Community Research and Development; E. Division of Human Devleopment, Director of Human Development (An Appointed Officer) Employment and Training Services Adult Education, Pre-School and Elementary Education, Secondary Education. F. Office of the Justice; The Attorney General (An appointed Officer), Tribal Claims, Land & Natural Resources, Civil Rights, Civil Actions, Contract Administration. G. Office of Public Gaming.

Section 105. The salaries of an appointed officer of the Nation shall not, at any time,exceed the fixed compensation of the Principal Chief as prescribed by Tribal Law.

Section 106. All appointed Tribal Officers, Board Members, Council Members, and Commissioners listed in Section 103 and 104, must be confirmed to said positions with the advice and consent of the National Council.

Section 107. Persons who do not receive the advice and consent of the National Council, shall not be considered again within a one year period.

Section 108. If at some future date it is decided by the majority of the National Council that the appointed Tribal Officers, Board Members, Council Members or Commissioners are no longer performing satisfactory they shall be removed from said positions by the Order of a Tribal Resolution passed by a majority vote of the National Council.

Section 109. The Principal Chief is required to implement a personnel policy, no later than thirty(30) days after the date of this Ordinance, the provisions of which may not be contrary to Tribal Law. The Personnel Policy must be approved by the Tribal Council and shall become a Tribal Ordinance, after being approved by a majority vote of the National Council.

Section 110. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Judicial System shall retain jurisdiction over all controversies arising under, pursuant to, or in conflict with the personnel policy.

Section 111. The Personnel Policy shall prohibit conflicts of interest; shall prohibit nepotism; and shall provide prompt and speedy relief for employee grievances.

The BILL (10-F) having been read, the Chair entertained a motion.,

A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Primeaux to approve the BILL as read. Upon a motion having been read, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twelve in Favor, Thirteen against, one abstention. Those being against: Roy Bear, Larry Bible, Johnson Buck, Robert Buck, Helen Chupco, Pat Clark, Betty Foster, Tony Hale, Robert Hardridge, Clyde Johnson, Richard Larney, Alexander Thomas, Barton Williams.

MOTION DID NOT CARRY. BILL (10-F) was not approved and shall be recorded as such.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Kenneth Childers and seconded by Richard Larney to amend the agenda by adding BILL 10-G; 10-H; 10-I & 10-J to the Agenda for Consideration during this session.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty Four in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions,

MOTION CARRIED. The agenda was amended.

10-G A BILL of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Purchase of Property for Use by the Castle Indian Community.

The BILL was read and considered as follows:

Section 101. FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. It is the goal of the Tribal Government to assist chartered Creek Indian Communities in securing facilities for activities and services for Creek Indian people. B. The Castle Indian Community is chartered, organized, and has identified available property for a community center. C. The Castle Community needs additional funds for moving a trailer and utility hook-ups in the amount of $3,000.

Section 102. The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to negotiate and purchase the following property; LEGAL DESCRIPTION: E/2 NE/4 SE/4 of Section 17 Township 11 North Range 9 East (surface only).

Section 103. The Principal Chief is authorized to administer and expend funds not to exceed $8,000 (eight-thousand dollars) plus any actual costs closing the transaction, all from Docket 21/276 Capital Acquisition.

Section 104. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation requests that the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs accept the purchase of lands described in Section 102 under the following title: THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN TRUST FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OF INDIANS, and hold said lands in trust under the appropriate federal status.

The BILL having been read, the chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Foster to approve the BILL as read. Discussion was entertained and held. UPon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-two in favor, None against, No abstentions. MOTION CARRIED, and shall be recorded as such.

10-I A BILL of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a Feasibility Study of Economical Development Project.

Section 101. The Principal Chief and/or his designate is authorized to pursue; a feasibility study, formulation of a limited partnership agreement and funding of an economical development project.

Section 102. Feasibility study shall be of a "Theme Park Venture" located within the original boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation, based on Indian, Western and Oil Boom historical era of 100 years (mid 1830 thru mid 1930).

Section 103. The limited partnership shall be between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and World Changers International, as investors, and Discovery Land Ltd., the developer and management of said project.

Section 104. Investigate and identify source of funding available in order to participate in project.

Section 105. The National Council hereby authorizes and appropriates Twenty-Thousand Dollars ($20,000) from the tax revenue account ($100-8234-0615) to be utilized for investigation and proportionate share of feasibility studies, as the Principal Chief deems appropriate.

Section 106. An agreement pursuant to Section 101 of this Ordinance shall be subject to ratification and approval of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion.

A motion was made by Bible and seconded by Johnson to approve BILL 10-1. Discussion was entertained and held. Amendment: a Motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Childers to amend Section 105 by deleting the existing funding source and inserting "the Economic Development Fund Account". Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Three in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions. MOTION CARRIED. The amendment was approved as read. UPon a motion having been duly made and seconded to approve BILL 10-1, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Three in Favor, None Against, No Abstentions. MOTION CARRIED BILL 10-1 was approved as read.

10-J A BILL Authorizing the Principal Chief to Negotiate a Beef Cattle Economic Development Project with Thomas McIntosh. The BILL was read and considered as follows:

Section 101. The National council hereby authorizes the Principal Chief to negotiate a Beef Cattle Project with Thomas McIntosh.

Section 102. Thomas McIntosh shall pay the Muscogee (Creek) Nation $18,000 (Eighteen Thousand Dollars) for a one-year renewable contract.

Section 103. The National Council hereby appropriates and authorizes the Principal Chief to expend the following Tribal Funds for the Beef Cattle Project. Cattle Purchase (100 head mother cows) $54,000.00, Gas Expense ($200/month) $2,400.00. Vet Bills, $5,000.00 Feed and Hay, $6,000.00, Total $67,400.00.

Section 104. Appropriations will be from the 7151 Account, which is revenues from Tribal leases and Royalties. The vet bills, feed, and hay will be furnished by the Agri-business and then billed to an account set up in Accounting on a monthly basis. Any unexpended funds will be returned to the 7151 account.

Section 105. This ordinance and the Beef Cattle Project contract shall terminate exactly one year after the approval date. The Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Primeaux and seconded by Dunn to approve Bill 10-J. Discussion was entertained and held as follows: Amendment: A motion was made by Harley Little and seconded by Jerry Wilson to amended BILL 10-J at Section 104 by deleting the existing fund account "7151 Fund" and inserting in its place "Economic Development Fund".

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-three in favor, None against, No abstentions. MOTION CARRIED. Amendment 1, was approved as read and shall be reflected in the final draft of this BILL.

Amendment 2. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Primeaux to amend BILL 10-J at Section 101 by inserting the word "contract" after the word "project". Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Two in Favor, None against, No abstentions. MOTION CARRIED. Amendment 2., was approved as read and shall be reflected in the final draft of the BILL (10-J). Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded to approve BILL 10-J a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twelve in Favor, Ten Against, NO Abstentions, Those being against: Roy Bear, Johnson Buck, Robert Buck, Pat Clark, Betty Foster, Joe Fox, Tony Hale, Clyde Johnson, Earl Wheeler, Barton Williams,

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 10-J was approved as amended and shall be recorded as such.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, ETC.

Planning Session-December 13, 1986, 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: By a unanimous decision the meeting adjourned.

FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL RECOGNIZES ETTA CONNER *for serving as Recording Secretary for the organization for the past eight years. Outgoing President and Cherokee Principal Chief Wilma Mankiller (center/left) presents Ms. Conner with a certificate of appreciation.(l-r) Chickasaw Governor Overton James, Choctaw Chief Hollis Roberts, Seminole Principal Chief Ed Tanyan, and Creek Principal Chief Claude Cox applauded the recognition. Chief Roberts was elected 1987 President and Chief Cox was elected the new Vice President.*

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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 2 February 1987 12 Pages

Governor Bellmon Establishes Indian Desk

By Helen Chalakee

After newly elected Governor Henry Bellmon recommended abolishing the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission, he soon assigned a personable young man within his administrative office to assume the daily duties of attending to the affairs of Oklahoma Indians.

Allen Wright said when he was on the campaign trail with the Governor they would talk about different issues and when the subject of Indians would come up he would really perk up. "The Governor knew I was interested. I was the only one who did express an interest- largely in part of my family heritage," Wright explained. Wright is the namesake of his great grandfather, Choctaw Chief Allen Wright, who named the state of Oklahoma, meaning land of the red people in Choctaw language.

Wright confessed he did not know the Governor had recommended to abolish the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission when he took the position as Indian desk. In fact, he admitted he did not realize at that time there was an Indian commission in place and excused himself of this stating his interest at OU was mainly in the federal government.

Wright said it is very important to him to gain the respect of the Indian people in Oklahoma and he will work very hard to do that.

After meeting with several concerned Indians and with the commissioners from the OIAC, he started formulating a framework for what he calls "formal recognition" without the bureaucracy. He plans to introduce a concept to the Governor which would establish an Indian desk within each agency, along with the establishment of a Governor's Indian Advisory Council selected from statewide recognized elected Indian leadership- persons whom other Indian people can trust, but by the same token the Governor must have like-minded people he can work with, Wright commented.

In working to establish a direction for Oklahoma Indians out of the Governor's office, Wright said, "I am taking things one step at a time, basically I'm blazing a trail on my own to formulate a workable plan that can be implemented- one that would not be inconsistent with what Governor Bellmon wants."

Wright said some of the tribal leadership that he had talked with were in full favor of doing away with the OIAC. Most of the OIAC commissioners interviewed by the MNN are defending the commission's position for continual funding and have already met with the appropriation committee to make this plea.

Various individual tribes and Indian organizations across the state are protesting these actions which were taken by the Governor without first confering with the Indian people.

The Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission is the only legislated recognition admitting there are Indians in Oklahoma and most of the Oklahoma Indians do not want to give up this legislated statement.

Getting into the original intent of the OIAC, Wright said he saw the commission's purpose was to form a liaison with the state government. "From a quick third person view of the commission as I have gotten into it, it seems like it has evolved into a caseworking apparatus- doing some worthwhile projects, but different from its original intent," detected Wright. "This was a divergence of what the original intent was and became a duplication of service," Wright stated.

"What I would like to see happen is a better government-to-government relationship between the state of Oklahoma and the Indian tribes- by saying government-to-government, I am recognizing they (Indian tribes) are governments and not just groups of Indians who meet at Council meetings, I fully realize they (Indian tribes) are functioning government entities," Wright said.

Wright reemphasized his plans were only like a draft and that he had not discussed anything with the Governor, then he related that he would like to see a full-time Indian desk in each agency of the state government. He mentioned the Department of Human Services, the Department of Tourism, the Department of Commerce and the Employment Securities Division.

"If there is a person designated in the Department of Human Services that could direct the welfare needs that this agency provides, then they (Indians) would know there is a person in that agency they can talk to. That's their (the Indians) home base in that agency," Explained Wright.

Wright then added, "This proposal is where we could run into problems- I don't know if that is establishing a position or adding a responsibility to an exisitent position- it may have to be phased in, instead of expanding the payroll, add the responsibility to someone's duties. Then if that position becomes available to replace the staff, fill it with an Indian person.

Reporter's comment: That plan sounds really long term when the

(See INDIAN DESK Page 2)

Allen Wright

PRESS JOHNSON, NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER, (LEFT), PRESENTS A CREEK NATION FLAG TO BUDDY COX AND WANDA DAVIS of the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association on behalf of Chief Cox and the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. The flag was presented to Cox, Chairman of the Oklahoma City Creek group and member Wanda Davis, at the February meeting of the organization held at the Native American Center. Mrs. Davis recently finished a handmade flag of the Creek Nation for the Association. (See OKC CREEKS story on page 3)

PRINCESS PAGEANT DEADLINE SET

The deadline for applications for the Creek Nation Princess Pageant will be March 25, those contestants wanting their photographs in the March issue of the Muscogee Nation News must submit photos by March 13. For further information and applications contact, Rachel Thomas, Creek Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447 or call (918) 756-8700. ext. 244.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a montly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $6.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements. Address: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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Vietnam Era Veterans Schedule Creek Chapter Organizational Meeting

Muscogee (Creek) veterans interested in organizing a Muscogee (Creek) Chapter for Vietnam Era Veterans Inter-tribal Association are encouraged to attend an organizational meeting March 7, 10:00 a.m., at the Creek Nation Tribal Complex in Okmulgee.

The Inter-tribal Association is a national organization to promote the American Indian veterans in a positive image, to remember those brothers who paid the supreme sacrifice in the war, to remember those brothers who have passed away since the war has ended, to provide a way for these veterans to express the pride they have in their warrior status, to help inform each other about topics related to their Vietnam related service, and to give American Indian Veterans a united voice in veteran affairs.

Harold Barse from the Oklahoma City Chapter, Jerry Haney, Seminole Chapter Commander, and William Haney, also with the Seminole Chapter, will be in attendance to offer organizational information. They will be showing a film made up entirely of interviews with American Indian veterans depicting the impact Indians made in the war, how they were involved in different aspects of the war and some of the issues brought forth after the war. For more information contact Harold Barse at 405/270-5184.

ALEXANDER POSEY POETRY CONTEST

ELIGIBILITY

Creek students, grades 4 through 12, who are enrolled in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are eligible to enter this contest. Applicants may also reside outside the Creek Nation boundaries.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION

No more than two poems from each student. Must be very neatly printed or typed. Student name, address, school, and grade must be included on upper right hand corner. We are looking for originial, creative work, and strongly encourage no use of patterned rhyming.

PRIZES

There will be six prizes awarded during the Creek Festival '87 in the following divisions: 4th through 6th grades, 7th through 9th grades, and 10th through 12th grades. Each winner will be awarded a cash prize and a certificate. There are three in each category: 1st Prize-$25; 2nd Prize-$15; and 3rd Prize-$10.

DEADLINE

1. Entries must be post marked no later than Monday, June 1, 1987.
2. Attach photocopy of Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship card.
3. Mail to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Communication Dept. Poetry Contest, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447.

Wild Onion Dinner Set...

Pickett Chapel, Sapulpa, will be having their Wild Onion Dinner on March 28 from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. It will held at Pickett Chapel Church.

INDIAN DESK Continued. . .

needs of the Indian people are immediate. ***Allen Wright comment:*** I think we can put that burden on someone now, they are just not going to be Indian. ***Reporter's comment:*** How do you think the Indians are going to accept this? ***Allen Wright:***Like I said, it is a proposal, I'm trying to fill the void. I can't do the casework. The Governor may be agreeable to placing someone in that category, I don't know- I have not yet talked to him about this.

"An area I get the impression Indians get the run around is when they apply for jobs- because they are not as adapted to the government process they don't have the built-in advantages some people have," Wright commented. "That's why we need an Indian desk in Employment Securities," he related.

"I really would like to see an Indian desk in the Department of Commerce to coordinate with the Indian Nations in the area of economic development much like they do with the cities and towns," he said.

"As I understand the Department of Commerce overview, they request information from cities and towns, then when industry comes looking, the department checks out individual information packets to determine where to send them that is as close to possible in what they are looking for," Wright explained. "From that point on it is up to the individual towns to sell themselves," he said.

"I don't see why this concept can't work with tribes," he said. "As I see it, it is a way of forcing some of the less organized tribes into getting their acts together. Because the good solid free enterprise competition will foster the necessity for tribal organizing. If things benefit you as an Indian, then it benefits the state of Oklahoma," Wright commented. " I think we all have to put aside petty differences," he added.

"As far as I'm concerned sovereignty is not an issue. The rights of sovereignty are established and backed up by case law- and we need to recognize it and use it to the advantage of all of us," he stated.

"I will propose these plans to the Governor. He will either accept them or send me back for something else."

Wild Onion Dinner in OKC...

The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association will hold a Wild Onion Dinner March 7 at the Native American Center, 2900 S. Harvey.

Attention! Older Workers!

55 may be the speed limit but not the age limit! If you are over 55 and would like to receive free training for a new career, please call this number - 918-756-6833.

This is a government-sponsored program for senior citizens starting in February. Call now and ask for Jessie Hendrickson of the Eastern Oklahoma Development District Area Agency on Aging. They are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The following training courses are available-Home Health Nurse Aide, Small Engine Repair, Upholstery and Leather Craft.

Haney- 29 Boatner- 17

Senate Rejects Language Resolution-

OKLAHOMA CITY-The state Senate rejected a resolution February 10 that would have asked Congress to adopt a constitutional amendment making English the official language of the United States.

Senators voted 29-17 against the proposal by Sen. Roy Boatner, D-Calera, after the only full-blood Indian in the Senate said it was offensive to the Indians.

Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney, D-Seminole, an Indian artist as well as a legislator, said any benefits from such an amendment would be outweighed by its negative effects.

Haney, Seminole/Creek, quoted the Bible in the Muscogee language during the debate.

He referred to Indian "Code Talkers", who communicated in Indian languages in World War I and World War II. The enemy was unable to decipher the messages because the languages are unwritten.

Haney said making English the official language would be a "slap in the face of Indian veterans." When you make English the official language, you make all other language unofficial and unimportant," he said. "English is a required subject in school. It is best taught in the classroom from textbooks- not from lawbooks."

Haney also asked whether it would be necessary to change the names of such towns as Tishamingo, Okmulgee, Muskogee and Tahlequah- all Indian words. Sen. Stratton Taylor, D-Claremore, wanted to know if it would be necessary to change the name of the state. Oklahoma is a Choctaw word meaning Land of the Red Man.

Boatner denied the proposal would require any changes in place names even if Congress adopted such an amendment. He also warned that there are estimates that as many as 43 million Americans will not be ble to speak English by the turn of the century. He said it is necessary to speak English in order to be successful in the United States.

"Language is an important bond for all of us," he said. He deleted part of the resolution that referred to Hispanic people and said they and other groups were trying to give foreign languages the same status as English.

"It depends on your viewpoint," Haney said. "English is a foreign language to me. This may be good politics, but its bad psychology. It's an attack on freedom of speech."

CREEK LANGUAGE CLASSES AVAILABLE

If any Creek Nation community needs a Creek language teacher call me and I will be glad to come there and teach. Telephone 405/670-4048 and leave information so I can call you back or write me: George Bunny, 2941 Cashion Place, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112.

1987 State of the Muscogee Nation

Presented by Principal Chief Claude A. Cox
January 31, 1987 at the quarterly meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council

It always gives me great pleasure to address you each year about the affairs of *the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. At the beginning of last year things didn't look good at all from the federal level for our programs. But, our executive managment team took a realistic and positive approach with every aspect of tribal programs and developed a maximum service effort from the limited funding. As a result, we saw no serious delays or impairment to our much-needed programs. In spite of cutbacks, optimum service was delivered and with a minimum in staff reduction.*

This year, in addition to decreased funding, we have another battle. The *The Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Ross Swimmer, is relentless in placing tribal governments under state control. WE CANNOT LET THIS HAPPEN. We are working every minute to safeguard the tribal government's position with the United States government.*

We finally received a written opinion in our favor from the bingo court case *last year which allowed the Creek Nation complete jurisdiction over our gaming operations. However, the state has filed an appeal which will be heard later this year in the Denver Court of Appeals.*

The Tulsa bingo operation showed a record profit for 1986. Bristow Community *is doing a fantastic job with their bingo facility and the Okmulgee facility is expected to open within a very short time. All of the facilities are expected to net an even larger profit for next year. We have some very serious investment considerations to make soon with the National Council.*

In a time when the farming industry is on a decline, you will be happy to hear *the Creek Nation Agribusiness is operating in the black. We feel this is an outstanding accomplishment.*

The contracting of the Eufaula Dormitory a few years back has saved us the *anguish of possible state intervention with the recent Swimmer decision to get the Bureau of Indian Affairs out of the education business. Because our facility is already established within the tribal government and the school has maintained such a high record of attendance along with a lower dropout rate and more student involvement in school activities,the Creek Nation stands on a proven record of management abilities that is above and beyond previous Bureau management and well advanced over possible state agency management attempts.*

Creek Nation funded more students last year than ever before in higher *education. A total of 902 students were assisted through the Bureau and the Tribal Scholarship Program on a combined budget of a little over a million dollars, with our half of that budget from tribal funds.*

We opened a new Head Start Center in Okmulgee last year making a total of *four centers located in Yeager, Sapulpa, Eufaula and Okmulgee. 169 children are attending the schools. Recently it was discovered through a national testing mechanism that Creek Nation Head Start students have been proven to have attained a higher proficiency level in basic academic and life skills than other children of their age group. This is a great achievement for the Head Start program with much credit going to four of the teachers who have been certified through National Council Development Association.*

The Community Centers all seem to be doing well and we are looking forward *to expanding in McIntosh and Creek districts. Through the tribal fund program, Creek groups outside the Creek boundaries are enjoying benefits from the tribal government. This is the first time the tribal government has been able to afford this opportunity and it is being accomplished entirely with Creek funds which is strengthening our concept of tribal sovereignty.*

We are looking to an even brighter future for the health programs with the *possible expansion of programs in Okfuskee District. The Eufaula and Sapulpa Health Clinics have recently earned JCAH re-accreditation and the Creek Nation Community Hospital is undergoing current approval review.*

For the fifth consecutive year, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been awarded *the prestigious "Conformance in Financial Reporting" certificate. I understand the Creek Nation is still the only Indian tribal government to receive the award. I want to extend a 'public thank-you' to our accounting director and staff.*

In a few months, I will be mailing out a five-year financial disclosure catalog to *all tribal members. We are working on the document now which should leave nothing untold about the sound financial condition of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.*

It has been a privilege to be the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief over *the past sixteen years and I look forward to serving you for many more years.*

MVTO

Claude Cox

Principal Chief Claude A. Cox

OKC Association Meet Needs of Urban Creeks

By Kathryn Bell

"We would like the Creek Nation to know how proud we are of them for recognizing the needs of the Creek people in Oklahoma City and responding to that need," said Mae Jackson, Vice-Chairman of the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association (OCMA) in an interview conducted by MNN at the monthly meeting of OCMA, February 3, at the Native American Center in OKC.

The Association, after becoming chartered, applied for tribal monies last year. They received the monies that were used for social services and for such items as emergency energy assistance, eye glasses and home repairs. These needs termed "serious" by OCMA, were identified through a needs survey done each year to determine where the funds will be best utilized.

OCMA receiving tribal funds marks the first time in the history of the Creeks that monies have been offered outside the service area of the Creek Nation. That fact makes OCMA organizers proud - "We take great pride in being the newest Creek city in our history since Removal," said Buddy Cox, Chairman of OCMA.

Before OCMA applied for and received tribal funds for assistance for the Oklahoma City Creeks, "our people went home to the Nation for help, but couldn't get it because they lived outside the service area - it was very discouraging," said Jackson.

Oklahoma City has the second largest urban Indian population in the country, with 2,000 Creek tribal members living in the OKC area - "with 95% of them low-income," according to Jackson.

According to Cox, 200-300 Creek families have been helped in the OKC area by the funds from Creek Nation.

Community workers take applications for those asking for emergency assistance, with the criteria of documentation of need, proof of enrollment with the tribe, and adherence to other guidelines of the program.

The group functions under the leadership of a Board of Directors which includes, Buddy Cox - Chairman, Mae Jackson - Vice-Chairman, Nancy Nibs - Secretary, Alice Wood - Treasurer, and members Willis Knight, George Bunney, who is also interpreter, Ruth Dickey, in charge of public relations, and Legus Mitchell, member and Community Worker.

"We want to continue and become self-sufficient and are looking into profit-making ideas," said Ms. Jackson.

Jane Milam, Midwest City, has been on the original board formed in 1985 and has been active in the organization since - she sees a real need among the Creeks in OKC for the Association: "There are many needs of Creek people in the City who just can't make it to Okmulgee to the Complex - they have no one to fight or talk for them and we just felt this was the only way ...and it's working."

Betty Proctor, 84, another supporter of the group since it began, is a recipient of some of the services provided by funds from the Creek Nation to the group - "

"I enjoy my involvement with the Association - it just lifts me up and gives me hope for my people - and I feel it has prolonged my life."

Mrs. Proctor gave an impassioned plea this past year before the National Council for funds for the Oklahoma City group and it's members feel this plea was was instrumental in the National Council voting in favor of tribal funds for OCMA.

Jackson added that other tribes had been inquiring about the structure of the OCMA and how they could, using OCMA as a model, organize a similar group for their tribal citizens who live outside the service boundaries of their tribes. "We have set a precedent for the other tribes in the state and we hope to give them ideas."

The organizers of OCMA have appreciated such support from the Creek Nation - "Some of our Council members and, particularly the Chief, have really appreciated it..."

"We invite all Council Members to attend our meetings to see what is going on," she said.

Two National Council members were present at the meeting that evening - Barton Williams and Press Johnson, who presented the Creek Nation flag to the Association.

Part of the success of the OCMA, according to Cox, is it's strength of unity - unity the group would like to see binding the entire tribe more closely together: "The Creek people here in Oklahoma City are praying every day that the Creek Nation become more united instead of being divided by opposition and problems."

"OCMA is an outgrowth of an older organization that started with a small group of people and $8. They decided to get the community reorganized and chartered with the Creek Nation. They began that struggle in prayer - it was something we asked God to do. The way we began is a compliment to Creek Nation, and Indian people. It shows our determination...and we credit God with that," said Cox.

Cox, in a concluding statement, reflected on the future implications of the unique structure of OCMA and hopes it will work for other tribes - "Creek Nation has paved the way for a whole new existence for the Indian in an urban area - we are the answer for the Indian of tomorrow..."

VICKI HAUG, PAM LINCOLN AND MOLESIA DEER OF THE CN HEADSTART PROGRAM were recently credentialed as Childhood Development Associates (CDA's). They are teachers with the Headstart Centers located within the Creek Nation.

CN Head Start Celebrates 9 Years

By Kathryn Bell

The Creek Nation Headstart Program is celebrating nine successful years of operation. Part of that success is due to the qualified personnel at each of the four Headstart Centers, according to Janet Lynn, Headstart Program Director. "I feel that I have a very dedicated staff. I've always said that you have to love the work to do it. There are never two days that are alike when you're working with young children," she said.

The Centers are located in Eufaula, Yeager, Sapulpa, and the newest, Okmulgee, which opened a year ago at the Complex. The total enrollment for the four centers is 169 students. Lynn said that there are future plans for yet another center within the Creek Nation "if monies become available for expansion."

There are eight teachers in the program and four of these have been credentialed as Child Development Associates (CDA's) through the Council for Early Childhood Professional Recognition. They are; Pam Hall, Vicki Haug, Molesia Deer and Mattie Long. Those that are working on their CDA certification are: Patricia Lincoln, Sue Henson and Nellie Hallum. Phyllis St. John has her college degree and teaching certificate. "Our goal is to have all our teachers credentialed by 1988," said Lynn.

The three teachers who most recently received their CDA credentialing, Molesia Deer, Pam Hall and Vicki Haug, are very excited about their futures with the CN Headstart Program: " I became involved in Headstart eight years ago when my two children enrolled in the program," said Pam Hall, adding that she became a Parent Coordinator, then took a teacher's aide position before being hired as a teacher. "I am also a certified bus driver and have attended Early Childhood Education workshops and classes." She said, "Over the years, I have had the opportunity to visit other Early Childhood programs, and I believe Creek Nation Head Start is one of the best. I am glad my children had the opportunity to go and that I became involved in this very worthwhile profession."

Molesia Deer started in 1982 as a teacher's aide at the Yeager Center. She then applied for the position of teacher - "I chose to seek accreditation with the Child Development Association, because this is a very exciting and rewarding experience for me." Deer added that working with the Headstart Program had given her knowledge about children that had helped her with teaching and parenting. "My two younger children graduated from Headstart and therefore, I understand the value of the program. As an employee, I am proud to be a part of the Creek Nation Headstart."

Vickie Haug has been employed with the Headstart program for three years - she too is dedicated to her work- "I find it rewarding to watch the children progress as they accomplish each goal as it is set for them."

The CDA program is the only major national effort to improve child care by evaluating and recognizing the skills of individuals providing care. Every candidate for the CDA Credential is observed as they work with young children and is evaluated by a team which includes a parent and early childhood experts. The candidate must demonstrate ability to work with families to develop children's physical and intellectual capabilities in a safe and healthy learning environment.

Headstart an Administrative Priority for Education...

All of the Creek Nation Headstart Centers operate under the guidelines of providing early educational experiences to the following; low-income Indian children, ages four and five who will not be eligible for kindergarten, handicapped children, low-income non-Indian children and over-income children.

The Creek Nation Headstart Program, which began in 1979, operates under an administrative priority to provide a comprehensive educational system to educate the citizens of the Nation. Director Lynn explained that the Headstart Program, which is designed for children 3-5 years old, provides a much-needed education and social boost toward school readiness. "Our Creek Nation administration felt the implementation of a Headstart program would help to reverse the trend that public education, according to educators, tended to alienate Indian children."

The policy-making body of the Headstart Program is the Parent Policy Committee and each center has a Parent Committee. Lynn sees this as vital to the success of the programs."
we are educating the parents as well-parents are the prime educators and we aren't taking the responsibility of educating the children from their parents, but we are rather, working hand-in-hand with them so that they can continue to be effective in their role as educators of their own children. We greatly appreciate the support our parents have given to each centers program."

The centers provide a curriculum that includes educational programs in the areas of language development, cognitive skills, gross and fine motor development, self-help skills and social and emotional skills. In addition, health services are provided to the children-with health and dental screening and follow-up. "One of the most important aspects of Headstart is the health and nutritional services the children receive at our centers. Two-thirds of the child's daily nutritional needs are met by the program." Said Ms.Lynn.

Transportation for the Centers is provided by Creek Nation buses to those residing within the boundaries of the centers.

Tulsa Indian Community News. . .

By Rita Williams

The Tulsa Indian Community met January 26, Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Tulsa City-County Library.

The meeting opened with the Lord's Prayer, and Jerry Wilson, National Council Member, was invited as a guest to speak on CN's Energy Assistance program. Other business discussed was plans for the Tulsa Indian Community to become chartered and to work toward getting a Community Center. A committe was set up to work on by-laws and a constitution for the group.

The Constitution Committee is Andrew Skeeter, Monetta Trepp, Elliot B. Bruner and Norma J. Posey.

Alice Stephens is serving as Vice-President of the Tulsa Indian Community and Irene Cleghorn is responsible for organizing the meetings. New officers will be elected in the February meeting.

Those in attendance were: Jacob Harjo, Lydia Harjo, Robert Cleghorn, Andrew Skeeter, Mary M. Bullett, Alice Stevens, Della Mae Rayon, Delma B. McClelland, Newman Perryman, Mack M. Polk,Jimmie Wildcat, Elliot Bruner, Leda V. Bruner, Norma J. Posey, Joe McGilbray, David M. Wilbanks, Jerry Parsons, Pandora R. Parsons, Monetta Trepp, Newman Childers.

The Tulsa Indian Community meets the third monday of each month at the Tulsa City-County Library 2437 E. 2nd.st.Tulsa, Oklahoma. All people living in Tulsa are encouraged to come and support their community.

Lacrosse...

Dear Muscogee Nation News,

I have a dream! I am hoping it will become the dream of all, especially your people.

I have a dream regarding lacrosse. Why shouldn't it gain a high status and become like baseball, played all through America. Why not a pro league and games on t.v. and championship playoffs.

Lacrosse, as a major sport, can bring both big bucks and dignity to the participants, and surely, as I am told by those who know the game exceedingly well, Indians will qualify formidably. It was their game from the start.

I write to you to ask for input. Make my dream,your dream. Share whatever helpful hints you may have. Express your thoughts.

Also, can you direct me to others who would be interested. Can you furnish names, addresses, of potential lacrosse players and supporters.

Can you donate some space to this project in your publication. Help promote this dream. If you print anything, please mail me a copy, or a few copies, of your records.

Thanking you for your kindness and assistance,
Sincerely,
Lucas Longo
283 Cooper Place,
New Haven, Conn 06515

CN Alcohol Program

Lost in the Fog of Alcohol or Other Drugs?

CO-DEPENDENCY

If you were raised, or presently live, in a family where one or both parents (or grandparents, or significant other) abused or were addicted (or is presently addicted), to alcohol, street or prescription drugs, then you are a co-dependent.

Co-dependency is the thinking, feeling and behavioral effects of living with the family disease of alcoholism. You may not even be aware of how the co-dependency is affecting you.

Here are some questions that may help you decide if the group educational series could benefit you.

-Do you have an excessive need for approval?

-Do you overextend yourself?

-Do you tend to be a perfectionist?

-Do you often second-guess yourself once you have made a decision?

-Is it easier to be concerned for others more than yourself?

-Do you find you have compulsive tendencies such as overeating, overspending, overworking?

-Do you wonder when the bottom will fall out when things are going well?

-Do you have a strong need to run the show, to be in control?

-Do you have a tendency to take life very seriously and find it is hard to relax and have fun?

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Creek Nation Alcohol Program, Okemah Indian Health Center, Okemah, Oklahoma 74859 or phone 918/623-0555.

Admission and Referral

Physicians, medical staff, human services staff, any staff member, self-referrals, families, friends, employers and/or any concerned person may refer by contacting the Creek Nation Alcohol Program: 1-918/523-0555.

Eligibility

Creek nation residents who are Indian and/or any Indian person. Non—indians will be charged for services. Must provide written verification of degree of Indian blood (CDIB) by second visit. Non-Indian spouses and/or dependents not eligible to seen individually.

Location

The Creek nation Alcohol Program is located in the Okemah Indian Health Center as part of the Human Services Program.

Staff

The Creek Nation Alcohol Program is staffed by professionals in all aspects of alcoholism/drug abuse (chemical abuse).

The Creek Nation Alcohol Program is a medical detoxification service available to Creek citizens and referrals from concerned individuals at the Creek Nation Community Hospital.

The medical-detoxification service provides a clinical environment for monitoring- and medically treating chemcially dependent individuals while withdrawing from long term drug use/dependency. The following outlines the Creek Nation Alcohol Program:

DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

Screenings are provided for chemical abuse, family, and psychological problems; recommendations and referrals are made for appropriate treatment.

INTERVENTION SERVICES

Counseling and training are available for family members, or significant others wishing to confront loved ones about the harmful effects of chemical abuse. The goal of intervention is treatment for the chemically dependent person, family, and/or significant others.

COUNSELING SERVICES

Individual, family, couples, and group counseling are available for clients with psychological, adjustment, and chemical abuse problems.

OUTPATIENT PROGRAM

Services include:

1. Initial evaluation and treatment planning.

2. A combination of individual, couple, and/or family counseling, group therapy, and education, plus an orientation to adult children of alcoholics groups.

3. An experience in group therapy through which clients learn to recognize and express their feelings and thoughts.

4. An opportunity for family treatment while the spouse or significant other participates in treatment.

5. An individual counseling proram with weekly individual and/or couple sessions.

6. An ongoing program of weekly aftercare and individual sessions following the initial program.

STRUCTURE

Outpatient

Initial Visit: The initial visit of a client and/or family seeking information about treatment.

Diagnostic Workshop: Three visits including obtaining an individual or or family history, family consultation, psychological testing and recommendations for treatment.

Therapy: Individual and group therapy as well as education, ACOA groups.

AFTERCARE

Aftercare is an essential part of the Creek Nation Alcohol Program. We offer daytime aftercare groups for individual or couples. Our program, or a referral program, will closely monitor for signs of relapse.

INPATIENT

Although the Creek nation Alcohol Program is unable to provide long term inpatient treatment, we can assist in referring client and/or family to an inpatient treatment program when necessary. This includes assisting in seeking financial resources for inpatient treatment costs.

State Senate Candidate Lewis C. Long, Jr. Seeks Endorsement of Muscogee Nation

Lewis C. Long, Jr., a candidate for State Senate-District 37, visited with Chief Cox recently concerning his bid for the Senate. The "Special Election" for District 37 will be conducted February 24 to finish out two years left in the term Bob Hopkins resigned from to run for the Corporation Commission. Hopkins was elected to the Commission.

Long, who is soliciting the Indian vote, says former Senator Hopkins and former Tulsa Sheriff Dave Faulkner are endorsing him. He said he wanted the people to know that he is not a lawyer or a politician. Long has owned the American Technicial Institute located in Tulsa for the past thirteen years.

By profession, Long is a welder out of Local 798. Long says his campaign will be directed toward education, specially vocational training, and a business platform. He says he will pay attention to the working people and their concerns and needs. Long and his family have resided in the Glenpool area for seventeen years.

Muscogee Indian Community News . . .

By Turner Harjo (Russell Waldon)

The Muscogee Indian Community was called to order by the President Lee Chupco. Reverend Bill Washington of Butler Creek Baptist Church opened the meeting with a prayer.

He said, "To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose; a time to be born; a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck-up that which is planted." Ecc. III; 1,2,6 and 8.

The regular monthly meeting was discontinued for a special meeting as we had visitors from the Creek Nation.

Chief Cox accompanied by the administrative staff of Gary Breshears, Mark Downing and Kevin Sanders. Communication Specialist, Gary Robinson showed a video called "1000 Years of Creek Art."

Anyone who want a copy or to see the video should contact the Communication Dept. P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Okla. 74447 or call; (918) 756-8700 ext 327.

Extension Home Economist Riletta Marshall from Muskogee gave a slide presentation and spoke on "Hypothermia and the Elderly."

Ms. Marshall told what one should do in case of emergency. She listed some Do's and Don'ts. Do keep the person suffering from hypothermia warm. Call trama unit. Do not give food or liquids to a person suffering from hypothermia. If a person stops breathing administer CPR.

Chief Cox was introduced to the community by President Chupco. Chief Cox's statement to the community was why the National Council should be reduced to eleven members. The primary reason being the financial burden on the budget and the Creek Citizens. Harley Little presented the opposing view.

There will be an amendment to the Constitution that must be voted on by the citizens of the Muscogee Nation, all citizens are urged to vote on this important issue.

Meeting was adjourned.

Okemah Community News...

By Ernestine Henneha

Okemah Indian Community held their regular monthly meeting on February 2, at Christine Burgess' home. Chairman Frances Lowe was in the hospital due to illness. The meeting had a discussion plan. The agenda was on the Pow Wow Benefit.

The community is sponsoring a Pow Wow Benefit Dance on February 28 at the New armory building located one-half mile east of Okemah on HWY 62, 1/4 mile south. We hope this Benefit will raise funds for the community. There will also be a concession stand. The people of the community will be helping out by volunteer help and we would like to thank each one that helped the community out and help build it. Get involved even just listen. We would appreciate it. The community will hold a basket of groceries for drawing and we would like the community to donate for this.

The next meeting will be March 2 at 7:00 p.m. Location is unknown right now, but will be in the Okemah newspaper.

There will be a meeting on the Benefit February 16 and 24 at Christine Burgess Home, 903 N. 4th, Okemah, OK., 623-2833.

—OBITUARIES—

REV EUGENE SUNNY

Rev. Eugene R. Sunny, age 69, died Wednesday, January 21 in Okmulgee.

Rev. Sunny was born July 17, 1917 in Okmulgee and was a minister and lifetime resident of Okmulgee. He was retired, having worked from 1943 to 1977 at Ball Brothers Corp. He was a member of Honey Creek Methodist Church. He was preceeded in death by one sister, Isabel Hardridge, in November, 1985.

Survivors include two brothers, George Sunny of Okmulgee and Tom Sunny of Tulsa; and five sisters, Mary Sunny, Josephine Sunny, Peggy Chalakee, and Betty Woodfield, all of Okmulgee, and Joanne Dunn of Morris.

A Wake Service was held 8 p.m., Friday, January 23 at Honey Creek Methodist Church. Rev. Sunny's nephews served as pallbearers.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Saturday, January 24 at Honey Creek Methodist Church with Rev. Lee Chupco and Rev. James Yeager officiating. Interment followed in the Okmulgee Cemetery.

Eugene Sunny ministered at the Retired Ministers Senior Citizens Annual Campmeeting held at Big Cussetah Indian Methodist Church, June 27-29, 1986.

Eugene was chairman of the Honey Creek Indian Methodist church for over 30 years and was baptized August 25, 1935 at Honey Creek by the late Rev. James Chupco. He received his Exhorters License July 9, 1938 ordained by the late Rev. March Monday. He was licensed to preach January 1, 1975 and ordained by the late Rev. Sampson Tims.

He married Essie Lee Douglas in 1974 and she preceded him in death February 1975.

Singing old traditional Creek hymns was one he was noted among Indians and non-Indians throughout the Methodist Annual Conference. As a young teenage boy he traveled with Creek ministers learning from them. His nieces Pearl Thomas and Betty Woodfield recall the story told to them and his travels with, Thompson Larney, Tingo Frank, Sam Checotah, Bud Little, Niffy Grant, James Chupco, Lewis Dunson, Kvnvke Lowe, Tom Fields,Jeffrey Smith, Alfred Harjo, George Long and Newman Long and a list of others.

One of his favorite hymns was Hesaketvmeset Likes (God Our Creator) and one song that he was always asked to lead at District Conference and Annual Conference was the "Dismissal "song, Hesaketvmeset 'Sepu'wahecvs "Lord Dismiss Us". At the age of 69 the Creator "dismissed" him from this earth to a place called "Heaven" and to sing forever to whom the Creek Indians call "Hesaketvmeset".

LUTHER CHECOTAH

Luther (Red) Checotah, age 70, died January 17, at his home in Okmulgee.

Mr. Checotah was born Dec. 4, 1916, in Okmulgee, and was a member of the New Town Methodist Church.

He is survived by his wife Lola Checotah of Bartlesville; his father Martin Checotah of Okmulgee; one daugther, Charlene Hensley of Bartlesville; two brothers, Thomas J. Checotah of Jacksonville, Fla. and Clinton Checotah of Muskogee; two sisters, Delia Betsille of Tulsa, and Lillian Washington of Okmulgee; two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Services were held January 20, at New Town Methodist Church, with Rev. Almer Berryhill officiating the service. Pallbearers were Clarence Davis, Kenneth Davis, Michael Davis, Ben Checotah, Ricky Betsille, David Washington and Don Washington.

LUTHER CHECOTAH is shown in 1983, being interviewed at his home in Okmulgee, by state oral historian, Joe Todd.

WALTER TAYLOR

Walter Taylor, Age 39, resident of Henryetta, died Sunday, Jan. 18. Mr. Taylor was born May 28, 1947 in Ryal and married Sally Tiger on January 30, 1968. He worked at Tulsa Tube Bender Co. in Tulsa.

He is survived by his wife, Sally, two sons, Lucas and Walter Jr., three daughters Sarah, Shelly and Shelia all of the home; his mother Livvie Tiger of Ryal; five brothers; Mitchell Taylor of Ryal, Sam Kelley of Haskell, Jim Kelley of Glenpool, Adlo Fields of Hitchita, and Lewis Taylor of Henryetta; and five sisters, Addie Lewis of Collinsville, Mary Kelley of Henryetta, Opal Rose of Sand Springs, Lena Starr of Henryetta, and Cinda Holata of Okemah.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., Wednesday, January 21, at Hickory Ground Number One Indian Church, with Rev. Tom Phillips and Rev. Ellison Phillips officiating. Interment will be in the Taylor Family Cemetery in Ryal under the direction of Shurden Funeral Home.

Wake services were held Tuesday at 3 p.m. at Hickory Church.

MATTIE BROWN

Services for Mattie Brown, 71 of Eufaula were held February 4 at the Shurden Chapel in Henryetta. Rev. Allison Phillips and Rev. Dan Phillips officated the service.

Mrs. Brown was born August 28, 1915 in Dustin and died February 2 at her home. Mrs. Brown was a member of Hillibee Indian Baptist Church, and housewife. She married George Chisum who preceded her in death in 1959. She then married Sam Brown who preceded her in death in 1976. She was also preceded in death by one grandson, Johnny Wesley Hale, in 1984.

Mrs. Brown is survived by three daugthers, Estalene Fields of Henryetta, Georgia Ann McGirt of Holdenville and Leona Mae Hale of Morris; one stepson, Daniel Chisum of Chesterfield, Mo.; two stepdaughters, Ruth Sims of Muskogee, and Lorene Hammontree of Dustin; three sisters, Virginia Barnett, Lela Looney and Lucille Whitlow all of Dustin; one brother Eastman Whitlow of Dustin and nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Sam Mitchell, Ray Masengale, Odell Campbell, Barton Looney, Rufus Whitlow and Billy Williams.

REBECCA M. BASOW

Funeral services were held for Rebecca M. Basow, 63, January 24 at 10 a.m. in the Resthaven Mortuary Chapel in Wichita, Kansas.

Mrs. Basow died January 19. She was born May 21, 1923.

Officiating at the services was Rev. Thomas W. Hall of Trinity Presbyterian Church in Wichita. Organist was Allen Malaby and Vocalist was Carol McDonald.

Survivors include; husband Hugh M; sons, Robert R. of Chesterfield, MO., Dr. William M. of Fort Collins, Colo., brother Claude Richards of Columbus, GA; six grandchildren. A memorial has been established with Trinity Presbyterian Church.

RALPH PERRYMAN

Ralph Reed Perryman, 61, Tulsa, passed away January 25, 1987. He was a Korean War Veteran, served in Germany for 2 years and a Retired U.S. Postal letter carrier. He was the son of the late Ralph Robert Perryman and Alice Perryman.

Survived by: wife, Joanna; 1 daughter, Susan Pickering; 1 brother, Samuel Perryman; 1 sister, Sutta Bowlegs; mother, Alice Perryman; grandson, Zachary Joseph Pickering.

Services were held 2 p.m. Wednesday, at the Heath-Griffith Chapel, interment was at the Floral Haven.

HELEN BARNETT

Helen Barnett died January 21 at her residence in Baker, LA. She was 69 and a native of Hughes County, OK.

Funeral services were held January 23 at the Northside Baptist Church in Baker, at 10 a.m. Services were conducted by the Rev. Billy Minyard. Rev. Tom Phillips conducted services at Wetumka with graveside services conducted by Rev. Harley Bornoski. Burial was in the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church Cemetery.

She is survived by her husband, David O. Barnett, Baker; two sons and daughters-in-law; David R. and Barbara N. Barnett, Zachary, and Daniel J. and Charlotte Ann Barnett, Gonzales; two brothers, Andrew Albert, Wetumka and Edward Scott, Las Cruces, N.M.; a granddaughter, Leah Barnett, Zachary; and Woodrow and Gloria Venable, Baker.

She was preceded in death by son, Louis Gene Barnett. She was a member of Northside Baptist Church, Baker, a charter member of Central Baptist Church, and a member of Indian Angels.

NOTE OF THANKS

On behalf of the Mattie C. Brown family we would like to thank all of you for your support and comfort that you gave us during the loss of our beloved mother and grandmother.

Thank you,
Daugthers, grandchildren and great-grandchildren

NOTE OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks and appreciation for all the kindness and sympathy shown us during the loss of our beloved brother and uncle.

We would also like to thank the Creek Nation for their assistance.

Family of Ethan A. Harper

NOTE OF THANKS

We wish to express our thanks and gratitude of everyone, friends and relatives, after the death of our father and husband James Melvin Wacoche, for food, flowers and comfort, and for all donations. They were much appreciated.

The Wacoche Family
of Eufaula

John Henry Robinson Relatives Sought. . .

Ruth Duvose is looking for anyone who might know of relatives or information related to her late grandfather John Henry Robinson. He was born 1889 in Kellyville, Okla and married Lizzie Boston, who might have been from the Kellyville area.

His father was Samuel H. Robinson. John moved in the late 1920's to New York. Ruth would also like to know if he was of the Creek tribe or Euchee.

Anyone with any information please contact: Ruth Duvose, 100 Terrace Avenue, Apt 513, Post Office Box 2202, Hempstead New York, 11550. Phone No. 1-800-221-2390 ext. 267

LARRY FOREMAN

PARTICIPATING IN THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY AMERICAN INDIAN EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, designed to prepare American Indians for leadership roles in public schools, are; (standing) Bernadette Huber, Perkins; Myra Alexander, Wagoner; Becky Neher, Broken Arrow; Amber Hughes, Red Rock; Jo Anna Coser, Stillwater; Norma Marshall, Wetumka; Linda Dyer, Harrah; (seated) Frank Adson, Tulsa; coordinator Dr. Larry Forman; and Jon Ringlero, Lawton.

Creek Students Receive American Indian Fellowship Grants at OSU

Four Creek graduate students are among nine American Indian students chosen to receive special fellowship grants from the college of Education at Oklahoma State University, according to Dr. Kenneth H. McKinley, director of Education Research and Projects.

The American Indian Educational Professional Development Project is funded by a $148,070 grant from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Indian Education to be used for a one-year project to promote the growth and development of American Indian educational professionals whose careers have demonstrated commitment to serving the needs of American Indian youth.

McKinley said the purpose of the project is to prepare American Indian educational personnel to serve in leadership roles in the public schools in the fields of school administration, curriculum supervision, school guidance and counseling, and clinical psychology.

Receiving the one-year grants are Myra Alexander of Wagoner, Becky Neher of Broken Arrow, Norma Marshall of Wetumka, and Amber Hughes of Red Rock.

Alexander received her bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Tulsa in 1962, and is working towards a degree in curriculum supervision. From 1972-85 she was a teacher/missionary in Florencia, Caqueta, South America. She was a band/orchestra teacher for the Tulsa Public Schools from 1966-68, and band and choral director for the Ottawa Independent District in Wyandotte from 1964-65.

Neher, a school administration major, received her bachelor's degree in education from Oklahoma State University in 1984. From 1984-86 she was the coordinator of Indian Education for Stillwater Public Schools.

Marshall received her bachelor's degree in English and physical education from East Central State University in 1986, and is working towards a degree in counseling. From 1984-86 she worked as a tutorial aide in the Indian Education Program of the Wetumka Public Schools.

Hughes received her bachelor's degree in sociology from Oklahoma State University in 1986, and is working towards a degree in counseling. She has worked for the Otoe and Ponca Tribes, and from 1985-86 served as human service specialist for the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma.

Preference in selecting the fellows was given to those who had demonstrated a strong commitment to returning to work in public schools or related agencies.

Directing the project is Dr. Russell Dobson, one of the program's designers and implementers. Others working with the program include Dr. Larry Foreman, coordinator, Dr. Judith Dobson, Brenda Heredia, and Dr. Kenneth St. Clair.

"This program differs from other programs in that all of the fellows are required to meet in a weekly seminar to discuss research, historical and contemporary issues, and to give encouragement to each other," Foreman said.

The program is also unique in that it offers a chance to examine Indian issues, beliefs, and how people regard themselves and others, Foreman said.

"In terms of Indian beliefs, there is a very definite cultural heritage," he said.

Beyond the economics of the situation, there are also cultural differences in how Indian students view the world, and English is sometimes a second language for the students.

"A popular phrase around the Arapaho and Zuni reservations where I worked for 13 years is 'trapped between two cultures,' "Foreman explained. "On the one hand you have the traditional culture. On the other hand you have the economic ascension of the mainstream culture. You have to adapt."

Fellows receive a monthly stipend of $600, an additional $90 for any dependents, plus a book and travel allowance, Foreman said. OSU provides all tuition and fees.

Program participants will also attend various state, regional and national conferences to provide interaction and networking with other Indian educators and specialists.

Umpire Clinic Scheduled February 28, CN Complex

Dear Fellow Umpires,

It is almost time again, hope you had a good winter and are raring to start Softball. I am hoping to have one of the most productive years we've had and will have a clinic at the Complex on Feb. 28 at 8 a.m. This will be the only held at the Complex this year. If you plan to umpire this year or know of anyone who wants to umpire for the Assoc., please let me know at Northeastern Oklahoma Fastpitch Umpires Assoc., PO Box 1401, Sapulpa, OK 74067, 918-224-0531.

We have a lot of tournaments this season with the largest, the Creek Festival, Cherokee Festival and the All-Indian State in OKC.

Clarence Johnson, Chief Umpire

Bacone Announces President/Dean List

Five students of Native American descent were named to the President's list for academic work completed during the fall semester at Bacone College.

Students must complete 12 hours of course work, have no grade below a B, and earn a grade point average of 3.50.

Students named to the President's list at Bacone College were:

Cherokee

Denise L. Billy, Okay, freshman

Wynona Victoria Dreadfulwater, Tahlequah, sophomore

Sharon E. Rhodes, Hulbert, freshman

Kiowa

Harold Tapedo, Carnegie, freshman

Creek

Joe Jackson, Okmulgee, Freshman

Eighteen students named to the Dean's Honor Roll for academic achievements last semester

To qualify for the Dean's List, students must complete at least 12 hours of course work, have no grade below a C, and earn a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

The students were;

Cherokee

Bambi Armachain, Cherokee, N.C., sophomore, Anna Lea Brown, Okay, sophomore, Tammy Lynn Brewer, Tahlequah, freshman, Joyce L. Carr, Wagoner, freshman, Vicki Lynn Cole, Tahlequah, freshman, Jan Susan Grant, Park Hill, sophomore, Betty S.Kingfisher, Tahlequah, sophomore, Cathy Lynn Noe, Okay, freshman, Teresa L. Spradlin, Porum, freshman, Dawn Michelle Vesper, Bartlesville, sophomore.

Choctaw

Kimberly Ann Charlie, Philadelphia, Miss., sophomore

Marlon Johnston, McIntosh, Ala., sophomore,

Cheryl K. Washington, Tahlequah, sophomore

Creek

Margaret Floyd, Eufaula, freshman

Ramona Lynelle Roberts, Sapulpa freshman

Teka Wesley, Fort Gibson,sophomore

Seminole

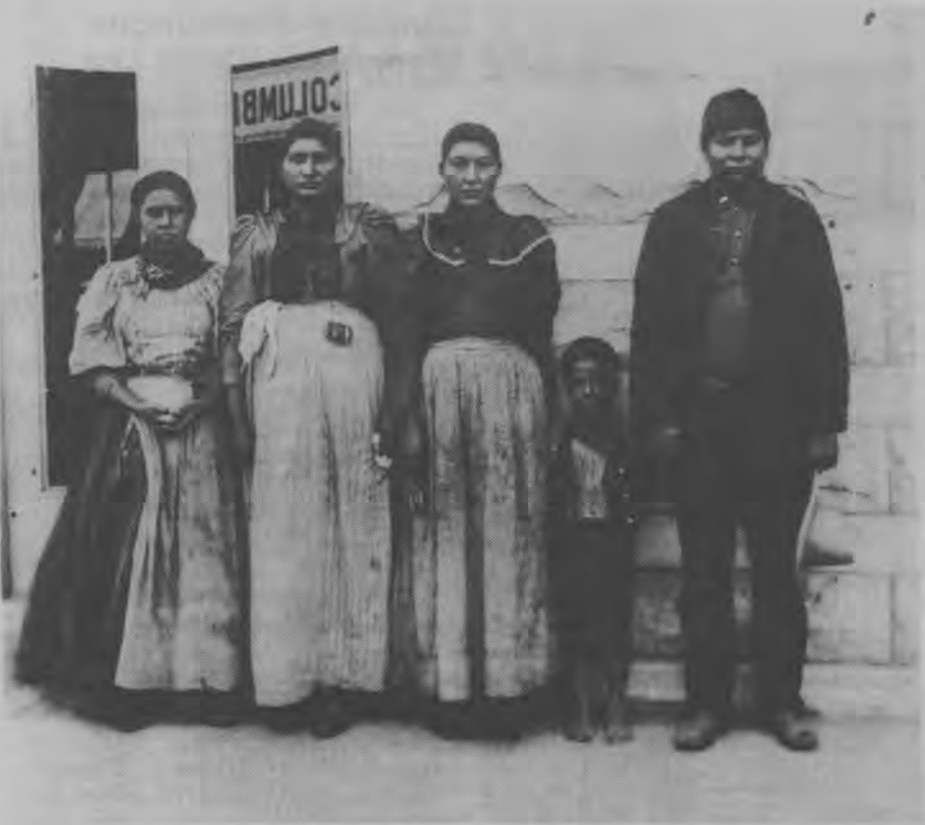
Damaris Joy Haney, Shawnee, sophomore

Sioux

Karen Wamego, Muskogee, sophomore.

MMS Reevaluate Royalty Schedule

The Minerals Management Service proposing to make its new royalty valuation regulatin retroactive. The changes allow MMS to consider market conditions and other factors in determining royalty value. If the new regulation was applied retroactively then Indian tribes would be required to refund payments to the leasees. The payments would be due over the course of the year. Recoupment for individual Indian allottees cannot exceed 50% a monthly payment. Comments due 2/17/87 contact, Dennis Whitcomb; Building 85, Denver Fedearl Center, Box 25165, MS. 651 Denver, Co. 80225 (303) 231-3432, 52 FR (No. 10) 1671.



IT'S MARKET DAY FOR THIS FAMILY OF CREEK INDIANS of the early 1900's as depicted by this photograph from the archives of the Western History Collection of the University of Oklahoma. (Taken from the Alice Robertson Collection).

Research into History of Early Creeks Reveals "Slice of Life" Experiences . . .

Edited by Kathryn Bell

During the course of our Communications Dept. research into the history of the early Creeks, many of the humorous, often-poignant and always, interesting daily accounts of their lives, were recorded matter-of-factly. These experiences reveal important aspects of early Creek culture, as well. We wanted to share these accounts with our Creek readers, which are excerpts mainly from the Duke Oral History Collection from the Western History Collection at the University of Oklahoma. These are interviews conducted with Creek elders in the 1970's.

Folk Medicine & Doctoring —

"My mother was an Indian doctor and she doctored people for headaches. She gathered roots and herbs for medicine. She didn't charge high like they're doing now. They used to give her a dollar or material in those days. She also doctored toothache and earache. She pricked their headache with the sharp edge of a broken, colored bottle. With a pipe, she also blew in their ear for an earache and sang a medicine song and plugged the ear with cotton. For toothache, she used tobacco. Also, for gall stones, we saved egg shells and put them in a stove until they were brown and made a tea out of them to dissolve the gall stones."

-Fannie Gann, Eufaula

"If a man or woman has pains in their joints, you find a turtle shell and scratch the paining place and that's a good remedy...I also use cedar and soap to doctor for skin trouble. Long ago Indians learned to doctor by ways of listening to the whispers from someone."

-David Lewis, Eufaula

Woman's Work Was Never Done—

"Back in my day they didn't can any food. We dried most everything. I guess we couldn't get any jars. I never did use no pressure cooker and when we women did learn to can, I would close the doors to the kitchen and not let any air or breeze come in and just canned in the hot kitchen.

"We also would make "abusky" - made of fine corn by putting lye or ashes in corn and putting them into a big pot and build a fire around it. You have to keep stirring it with a long wooden spoon-like - looks more like a canoe paddle - anyway, stir it until it gets bubbly and take it out shake the ashes out till clean. Put the corn in one of those wooden stump like a deep hole in it, clean it and maul it. It sure is good drinking in hot weather...and you can take the small grits and make "sofky" out of it..."

-Ethel McIntosh, Eufaula

"I didn't have no time for nothing until I moved to town in '43. I had to raise a family and cook three meals a day and washing and ironing. Breakfast was the big meal of the day - you'de probably laugh at what we had! I would fry a big skillet of potatoes and a skillet full of meat and I had a big, square bread pan and I'd fix it full of biscuits - we'd have homemade butter and sorghum with it. For dinner, I fixed brown beans and cornbread and supper was leftovers...and I still have leftovers for supper!"

-Stella Robinson, Okemah

"I learned to cook when I was about 12, but I was the one to take care of grinding corn. I also got the eggs and drove the turkeys back home, even if it was dew, because once they got out from the house, they wouldn't come back. They'd go out and sleep somewhere and the baby turkeys would get puny and sick and get chiggers on them. So it was my job to go find the turkeys and bring them back home..."

"Mama would buy materials and she had a machine and she would make all our clothes, even our underskirts. She made them out of outing flannels and they bought us heavy shoes and thick stockings and bloomers that were almost to our knees. In the summer time, she would buy us pretty flowered material and put pretty trimmings on them with pretty buttons. Mama even made her own brassieres with lace on them and girdles which she starched with flour."

-Fannie Gann

School Days—

"I went to Mountain View School. We had to walk a long way, and we carried our lunch in a big bucket - guinea eggs in it I guess. We would throw some meat and bread in the bucket and walk three miles to school."

-Fannie Gann, Eufaula

Ceremonials & Church—

"Creeks call their God "Ofoanka" or "Man With Power..."

"Indians used to doctor themselves when they played "stickball games" so one side could win. Since both sides did those things, some times they had big fights. If you notice old Indian heads long ago they had scars from the "sticks."

-David Lewis

"...coming back from church, I can remember how us kids would lay in back with our old quilt and sleep until we got home. Them days were good days..."

-Fannie Gann

"In those days, every since I could remember, we would camp in our camphouses at the church once a month. We would have all night singings and services. We used to have a lot of young people too, but we can't get no young people to come to the church house now..."

-Hepsey Scott Lewis, Eufaula

"I remember when I was younger in our Indian church, you couldn't hardly get a seat in there - there seemed like there was thousands of Cherokees - but now, you can hardly find anyone to sit down with you."

-Cooper Grayson, Oktaha

Burial Practices —

"Long ago Indians used to wait four days before they bury the dead because if one was witch craft, it (he or she) came back alive on the fourth day."

"Indians used to bury their dead in just-fitted right grave. One time there was a woman that was sick and she kept looking for something so they asked her what she was looking for. She told them she had a spoon but it was lost and she wanted it back. So they helped her to look for it. Finally they found it and not long after that they thought she'd get alright but she died. So that's why they put a quilt on a casket when they bury the dead so she can rest warm and in peace."

-David Lewis

The Spirit of the Community—

"Indians used to help each other and have love for one another. They used to visit and live together those that didn't have a home.Neighbors used to cut wood for one another and the women would quilt for each other. They also used to collect money and give it to those that were sick because in those days they didn't have no government hospital or anything. When you got sick you just had to do what you can. Now, nobody does nothing unless you pay them."

-Hepsey Scott Lewis

The Times Have Changed—

"Long ago Indians built their homes with logs and in place of cement now, they used to use red clay with weeds in it to hold it together and put them in between logs. They had small rooms but liked them and were happy..."

-Ethel McIntosh

"T.A. Thompson had a General Store at Oktaha and he had everything you needed - all kinds of food, coal, shoes and everything. All you had to do was go down there and you could get credit - even sold cattle on the credit. It was a busy place and the people just crowded up there in town. Even until 8 or nine in the night - you'de sometimes have a time just to get groceries. Yes, he carried everybody on credit - he carried the whole country on credit! But now on a Saturday evening, you couldn't hardly buy a nickles worth of nuthin' up there...

-Cooper Grayson, Oktaha

And Other Rememberances...

"Back in those days, all they had for public transportation was wagons - they'd go anywhere and across the country.I remember I saw a covered wagon come through down in the east there, and they had on it a big, old white sheet and had wrote up on one side with pokeberries - "Oklahoma or Bust." Then so, in a few years, there's one that come back through and it said "Busted"!

-Amos Bean, Wagoner

"After I was grown and old, we was playing cards (Flinch) and at that time they said the end of the world was coming. We were sitting on this old pole and we'd go out and look and see if we could see light up there, but one of us would go and out and look at the clouds to see if fire was showing. But some of us just kept playing flinch and one of us would watch outside...finally, my brother John won the game before the end of the world."

"...So in those days, nothing seemed hard. Even though we didn't have no car, or anything like that. But we had some horses and wagons to go to town and church. And every Sunday, my Grandpa took us to church. Ever since I can remember, we went to church."

-Hepsey Scott Lewis

These interviews were conducted by Fieldworkers, Lucinda Tiger, Roxanne Blakely (interview with Stella Robinson) and J.W. Tyner (interviews with Amos Bean and Cooper Grayson).

—photo by Kevin Watson

Harjo Crowned Bacone '87 Homecoming Queen

Stephanie Harjo, Wetumka, freshman, was crowned 1987 Homecoming Queen for Bacone College, Monday night, Feb. 2, at the Muskogee Civic Assembly Center.

Harjo, who represented the Bacone Indian Club, was crowned during halftime of the men's game between the Warriors and Oklahoma Junior College.

Harjo is a member of the Creek tribe. She is majoring in secretarial science.

First runner-up was Bambi Armachain, Cherokee, N.C.,freshman. Armachain represented the Sophomore Class. She is a member of the Eastern Cherokee tribe. Second runner-up was Johnnie Sue Belcher, Seminole, freshman. Belcher, a member of the Seminole tribe, represented the Freshman Class.

Other Homecoming Queen candidates were: Lena Acker, Braggs, freshman, a member of the Cherokee tribe, represented the Student Senate. Willie Crawford, Prague, sophomore, represented the Lady Warriors basketball team. Tanya Codynah, Walters, freshman, a member of the Comanche tribe, represented the Saddle Club.

Candice Crossland, Muskogee, freshman, represented the Science Club. Felicia Givens, Muskogee, represented the Warriors basketball t team. Dana Pooters, Bartlesville, freshman represented the Bacone Choir. Lynelle Roberts, Sapulpa, freshman, a member of the Creek tribe, represented the Cheerleaders. Naomi Tiger, Tulsa, freshman, a member of the Choctaw and Creek tribes, represented the Lady Warriors softball team. Teresa Wyly, Oaks, freshman, a member of the Cherokee tribe, was the publications Club representative.

Thanks to CN Hospital's Heart Program...

Dear Chief Cox,

I would like to express my feelings about an experience that happened to me recently. Also, this is my first time at writing a letter of this nature, so please bear with me.

I recently was hospitalized at Creek Nation Community Hospital during the period from October 15, 1986, through October 24, 1986, for chest pains. The patient-care I received from the nurses and personnel in the emergency room, intensive care unit and on the floor was outstanding. The nurses have to be very dedicated to give so much of themselves; I cannot find one fault in the patient-care received while I was there. Also, I appreciated the high degree of professionalism that Dr. L. Edison, D.O., displayed throughout my hospital stay. Also, Mrs. Owens, R.D., was very thoughtful and helpful with her nutrition information.

The primary intent for writing this letter is to commend Creek Nation Hospital's Heart Program. I'm sure the Heart Program could go "toe to toe" with many of the hospitals in the surrounding area. The other hospitals I'm sure have excellent heart programs also, but I just happened to know about Creek Nation Community Hospital's Heart Program first hand. In addition, I feel we should be very proud of our hospitals and the men and women who take care of us when we are ill.

Sincerely,
Paul K. Tiger, Jr.

CN Social Services Open Okfuskee Office

Creek Nation Social Services has established an office for Okfuskee County Indian population to better serve their needs with tribal service programs. The office is located in the trailor behind the Indian Health Clinic. Hours are 8-5 Monday through Friday. Patty Factor is the caseworker.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT
Jayce Mosquito

Craig and Debra Mosquito of Mounds, would like to announce the birth of their fourth child, Jayce Michael, born January 9th at Claremore Indian Hospital.

Jayce Michael weighed eight pounds and three ounces and measured 20 and one-half inches long. He has a twelve year old brother, Jacob, a nine-year old sister, Shank-dea and three-year old brother, Jarod.

Maternal grandparents are Tom and Mary Shirley of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Joe and Lena Mosquito of Liberty Mounds.

Wacoche Reunion Set. . .

The descendents and relatives of Alex and Willie S. Wacoche will host a family Reunion on May 30, 1987 at Wacoche Hall at Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Several activities are being planned including volleyball, baseball, horseshoes and a softball tournament. Dinner will be served. We hope that all descendents and relatives will be able to attend this memorial event.

For more information, contact Jean Berryhill at 918-756-8619; or Melvin Wacoche, 918-689-7176; Watie Wacoche, 918-456-5968.

Conference With Native American Medicine People Set in California

Traditional Indian Medicine "a sacred way of life and well-being" is a conference with Native American medicine people from around the nation scheduled April 19-24 in Fresno, California.

The award-winning program presents philosophies and concepts of Traditional Indian Medicine and how they apply to today's health care system and people of all ethnic backgrounds and professions. Traditional Indian Medicine people will discuss how traditional medicine can facilitate the healing process, how people affect the healing process and how modern health care providers can apply the principles of traditional Indian medicine.

Recipient of the Catholic Health Association's highest honor, the program began at St. Mary's Hospital and Health Center two years ago to teach doctors, nurses and other health care providers traditional Indian medicine philosophies of healing. St. Mary's now employs Comanche Medicine man Edgar Monettchi Jr., as Executive Director of their traditional Indian Medicine program.

Highlights of the six-day conference include a concert by Mescalero Apache medicine man and singer-musician A. Paul Ortega, as well as Native American dances and ceremonies.

The full conference fee is $250 before March 18, and $300 following. For Native Americans, the fee is $150. Scholarships are also available.

The conference is sponsored by Fernald Center of Springville, Calif., a non-profit educational corporation, and St. Mary's Hospital and Health Center of Tuscon, Arizona. Nursing CEU's are available. For further information, call or write, Fernald Center, PO Box 698, Springville, CA, 93265; (209) 539-3945.

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Letter From Evangelist Ernest Best...

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up that which was planted. He hath made everything beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end. I know that whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever; nothing can be put to it, nor anything taken from it: and God doeth it, that man should fear before him."

—Ecclesiastes 3:1,2,11,14

During the past month we have had the unique experience of seeing the young pastor of our church resign, load his household goods, and move his little family to the far northwestern part of Montana, to start a mission on the Blackfoot Indian Reservation. It was a bitter-sweet experience. Not only was he our pastor, he was our "son". He and his wife were saved in the church, matured spiritually, and he surrendered to preach there. He was pastor for 5 years. His children were born there and then, born again. He was faithful to his calling and God counted him worthy to be called to a greater field of ministry.

"A time to weep, a time to laugh, a time to keep, a time to release, a time to embrace, a time to keep silence..." We rejoice that God counted them worthy, but we also feel a great sense of loss. We know they face a very different job. Reservations are very resistant to the gospel, sometimes hostile to the point of violence. They are satan's territory and he doesn't surrender them easily.

We sometimes think of the work of a missionary as glamorous or romatic, when in reality it is anything but that. When we realize what they face, we understand why the apostle Paul wrote, "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." I is a warfare...a battle for the souls of men. There are casualties along the way. Missionaries give their lives, whether by living or dying, for the cause of Christ. With Paul, they say, "neither count I my life dear to myself so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God." Please pray for these men, women and children, who are in God's army, serving on Indian reservations in this country and Canada.

One couple took the pastorate of a mission on a reservation in Wisconsin in early 1986. They have experience constant and vicious resistance to themselves and their family since they arrived there. Another couple whom we saw arrive on the field a few years ago, resigned and left, defeated and broken at the end of 1986. These are men and women of God who preach and teach the word of God. They did not give up easily.

During 1986, we were on 22 reservations, in 10 different states, and 1 Canadian province, and preached in 8 churches that support our ministry, one camp meeting, one Christian gathering, one missions conference, 23 revivals, and 14 one and two night services. We feel that God blessed abundantly. He certainly blessed us personally. With the writer of Ecclesiasties, we say, "whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever; nothing can be put to it, nor anything taken away." We can't see the end from the beginning, but we know Who holds it all in His hands. We commit the past year and the year before us to Him...Jesus Christ, who is the We commit the past year and the year before us to Him. We also commend you who are our co-laborers in this work to Him...Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the Kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

Your Missionaries to the North American Indians,
Brother Ernest and Bennie Best

Regular Session, Nov. 22, 1986 Minutes

Invocation: Tony Hale
Call To Order: Carney Roberts, Speaker
Roll Call: A quroum declared with twenty-four members present, four members absent.
OLD BUSINESS: Title: Veto message returning NCA 86-50. The BILL was read and considered as follows: Motion by Jerry Wilson seconded by Stacy,motion to over-ride the veto. Discussion entertained and held. Voting results: 19 in favor, 5 against, no abstentions; Those being against: Helen Chupco, Pat Clark, Carney Roberts, Tony Hale, Clyde Johnson and Dorothy Miller.
Motion: carried-the Veto message was over-ridden and shall be recorded as such.
DISCUSSION: LB stated that in the BILL itself doesn't appropriate any monies for the operation of this BILL/Stacy stated that we already have two staff persons under the program "Economic Development Program" and that this would serve as Requests copy of the job descriptions for these two staff people that have jobs for the Economic Development.
Notes: Primeaux; suggested that we should have guidelines on how to vote on a constitutional amendment. He was advised that it is spelled out in the Constitution we have a court order on that exact same problem.
MESSAGE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF RETURNING NCA 86-59 TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL WITH OBJECTIONS: As Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and in accordance with the tribal constitution, I Claude A. Cox, do hereby return NCA 86-59, entitled "Adopting and Economic Policy/Plan," to the National Council with the following objections;
Objection: The Legislation Contains no appropriation to fulfill the intent of the ordinance.
This office agrees that economic development is essential to the future of this tribal government and we must take a systematic approach to realize these goals.
NCA 86-59 is a beginning towards addressing an updated economic plan and developing guidelines for proposed business ventures. However, the ordinance as written failed to appropriate the necessary funding to update the plan and provide for a review of business proposals submitted to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
Recommendation: It is the recommendation of this office that the ordinance be reassigned to the appropriate committee pending the submission of an adequate budget by the Executive Branch which will enable the provisions of the legislation to be implemented. Therefore NCA 86-59 is returned unsigned as a VETO.Claude A. Cox, Principal Chief, Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ADOPTING AN ECONOMIC POLICY/PLAN ACT.
Section 100. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds:
Section 100. Be it enacted by the Muscogee Nation in Council Assembled:
Section 101. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds: A. That there is a need to adopt an economic policy/plan.
Section 102. POLICY/PLAN/GENERAL GOALS. The Muscogee Nation adopts the following statements which will serve as guidelines in carrying out tribal objectives concerning economic development. THE MUSCOGEE NATION SHALL:
A. Develop and adopt an Overall Economic Development Plan and review at least annually and up-date. The Plan will include the following elements, however are not l limited to them: 1. An economic analysis of the tribal area and economic linkages. 2. A general study on industrialization and current economic trends. 3. Suggested Strategy on land base utilization (including individual and tribal). 4. Suggested economic activities which may be potential for tribal participation. 5. Summary of Past Development Efforts.B. The Nation intends to develop a Tribal Corporation to manage and operate tribal venture projects. C. The Nation intends to develop profit making enterprises which will produce and generate revenue sources for community service program. D. All business development proposals shall include the following informational items and shall be reviewed by competent and knowledgeable legal and accounting professionals to insure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local laws:

1. Description of the Business Venture
a. Business concept
b. Product/Service Description
c. Key Production Factors
d. Location/Physical Facilities
e. Status Report of Existing Business if acquisition
f. Tribal Benefits Anticipated
g. Relationship to Tribal Economic Development Strategy
2. Market Analysis
a. Market Description
b. General Market Trends
c. Competition
d. Market Projections
3. Proposed Business Structure
a. Form of Organization/Ownership
b. Management Plan
c. Training Plan
4. Financial Analysis
a. Startup Budget-Use of Funds
b. Structure of Financing-Source of Funds
c. Three Year Projected Income Statement
d. Projected Balance Sheet
e. Three Year Projected Cash Flow Statement
5. Supporting Documents
a. Copy of any agreements
b. Staff Resumes/Job descriptions
c. Cost Estimates on Equipment, Building, Land, Inventory, etc.
d. Other Information
E.Promote industrial revenue bonds on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
F. To develop a small business training, technical and financial assistance center for Creek entrepreneurs.
G. To promote the organization of a Creek Business Chamber of Commerce.
H. To promote Joint Venture Projects.
I. To develop a tax base for the Nation through the taxation of tribal owned businesses and other government transactions.
J. To develop and adopt a commerical code.
Enacted by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 25th of October 1986.

BILL 86-60 TITLE: VETO MESSAGE RETURNING NCA 86-60 was read and a motion was made by Kamp and seconded by McIntosh to Over-Ride the Veto Message. Discussion was entertained and held. Voting results were: seven in favor, 16 against and no abstentions; Those voting no were: Bear, Bible, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Roberts, Dunn, Dunson, Hale, Foster, Hardridge, Johnson, Little, Miller, Primeaux, Thomas, and Wheeler. Those voting yes were: Barnett, Cleghorn, Fox, Kamp, McIntosh, Stacy and Wilson. Motion Did not carry, this veto will be recorded as a "Standing Veto". Discussion was held. A request was made for a meeting with the auditing firm.
NEXT AGENDA ITEM: 11 A SUPREME COURT DECISION/NULL & VOID

MESSAGE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF RETURNING NCA 86-60 TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL WITH OBJECTIONS

I, Claude A. Cox, Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, hereby return NCA 86-60 entitle, "Establishing the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Audit Law" to the National Council with objections as follows:
OBJECTION: The Ordinance is Unnecessary, Arbitrary, and Contrary to Federal Requirements. This office has always expressed compliance with financial auditing requirements and the reporting of comprehensive financial information. The operation of this tribal government, with its relationship to the United States government, requires mandatory compliance with OMB Circular A 102, A-128 and the Single Audit Act. The Ordinance refers to audits of each fund in Section 100. The Single Audit Act and circulars require audits of the tribal entity as a whole. Audits of each fund would be more expensive and are prohibited by the Single Audit Act.**Section 106** of the Ordinance refers to accountants or partnerships of accountants only and excludes professional corporations. **Section 107** states that expenses of audits shall be paid by the program budget for which the audit is made. A -128 states that such expenses (including fees) are to be reimbursed by the federal government through the negotiated Indirect Cost Rate.
The Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-128 specify the type of reports to be issued by recipients of Federal grants and contracts. In addition, audit reports issued by Certified Public Accountants must be in accordance with Generally Accepted Audit Standards. The language in the ordinance creates confusion by redundancy, omission, or contradition with existing requirements.
Section 109 states that one copy shall be forwarded to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Single Audit Act requires a sufficient number of copies (presently 20) be sent to the Department of the Treasury, Office of the Inspector General.
Since the legislation is unnecessary, arbitrary and contrary to federal requirements, no further action is required.
Therefore,NCA 86-60 is returned unsigned as a VETO in accordance with the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Sincerely, Claude A. Cox Principal Chief.

AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUDIT LAW.
Section 101. Be it enacted by the Muscogee Nation in Council Assembled:
Section 102. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds:
A. That a law is needed regarding the auditing procedures of tribal trust funds and other funds under control of the Nation.
B. That such a law would provide a check and balance system and strengthen the creditability of tribal government.
C. That auditors of the Nation should meet certain standards established by ordinance; that auditors should be selected by the legislative branch of government; and that auditors should submit reports and management letters to the legislative branch.
Section 103 OFFICIAL TITLE OF LAW. This article may be cited as the "Muscogee (Creek) Nation Audit Law". Section 104. DEFINITIONS. The term "Muscogee Nation as used herein shall include any agency, department, program, enterprise, authority, or any other legal entity under the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Government. The term "auditor" as used herein means a person or parternership who makes an audit and prepares a report thereon as provided by laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. **Section 103 ANNUAL AUDITS, REQUIRED - OTHERS AUTHORIZED** The Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall provide for a cause to be made an annual audit of the financial affairs and transactions of each fund under the control of the nation for each fiscal year. Provided, all federal and state funds shall be audited in compliance with contract or grant agreements. Such audits or audits shall be made at the end of the fiscal year; provided, however, the National Council may require that audits be made at more frequent intervals. **Section 106 STANDARDS - QUALIFICATIONS OF ACCOUNTS - LIABILITY INSURANCE.** The audit of each fund shall be made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards as defined by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All accountants or partnerships under this article, shall satisfy the National Council that such accountant or at least one partner of a partnership of accountants is a resident of the State of Oklahoma with two (2) years of public accounting experience and is currently maintaining an office in the State of Oklahoma. Provided, such accountants shall make an application for approval by the National Council for the ensuring year. Each accountant shall satisfy the National Council that such accountants are licensed by the State Board of Accountancy before being placed on the list of approved auditors. Provided, further, that all accountants entering into audit contracts carry a minimum of Two hundred and Fifty thousand Dollars ($250,000.) accountants professional liability insurance or the total amount of the budget being audited, whichever is less. Any such policy may exclude from coverage the first One Thousand Dollars ($1,000) of any loss incurred. **Section 107 EXPENSES.** The expenses of audits required by this article, whether ordered by the National Council or the Principal Chief, shall be paid by the Nation and by the Program budget for which the audit is made. It shall be the duty of the National Council and the Principal Chief to make provisions for payment of said expenses.

Section 108. Audit Reports-contents. Each report on audit of funds under control of the Nation shall contain at least the following.
A. A statement of the Scope of Examination; B. The auditors opinion as to whether the audit was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards as herto established; C. The auditors opinion as to whether the financial statements included in the audit's report present fairly the results of the operations during the period audited; D. The auditors opinion as to whether the financial statements accompanying the audit report were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles applicable to tribal governments and in accordance with the laws of the Nation; E. The reason or reasons an opinion is not rendered with respect to paragraph C & D in the event the auditor is unable to express an opinion with respect thereto; F. The auditors opinion as to whether the Nation's budgetary and disbursement procedures conform to the requirement of the ordinance of the Nation and to applicable Federal and State laws; and G. Financial statements presented in the form and manner approved by the

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nation so as to disclose the results of the operation of each fund under control of the Nation.

Section 109. Audit Reports-Time to Complete-Distribution. A. Each audit required by this act shall be completed and the audit report thereon shall be submitted by the Auditor to the National Council within six months after the close of the fiscal year of the Nation. B. One copy of the audit report shall be filed by the National Council in the Office of the Principal Chief. C. One copy of the audit reports shall be maintained by the National Council as a public record for public inspection at all reasonable times at the Office of the National Council. All audit reports shall be kept at least five (5) years. D. One copy shall be forwarded to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. E. The National Council may make inquiries it deems neccessary to determine that each agency is properly complying with this article.

Section 110. EXAMINATION OF REPORTS—DEFICIENCIES. The National Council shall examine all reports submitted to it and shall determine whether said reports, comply with the provisions of this article. If the National Council finds, that they have not been complied with, the National Council shall notify the Principal Chief and the auditor who submitted said audit report by submitting to them a statement of deficiencies. If the deficiencies are not corrected within a ninety (90) day time frame from the date of the statement of deficiencies, the National Council shall require another audit to be made in the manner provided for herein this ordinance.

Section 111. False Statement in Reports-False Information-Penalty.

A. In any case where an accountant has knowingly issued an audit report, required under the provisions of the article, containing any false or misleading statements, the National Council shall report such violation in writing to the Judicial Branch and in the case of Certified Public Accountants, to the Oklahoma State Board of Accountancy. The National Council shall revoke their rights to perform such audits in the future.

B. Any person who knowingly and willfully furnishes to the auditors or to employees any false or fraudulent information shall be deemed guilty of malfeasance, and upon conviction, the court shall enter judgement that such person so convicted shall be removed from office or employment from the Nation, with the exception of the Principal Chief who is subject to impeachment.

Section 112. TRIBAL ACCOUNTING SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES. All accounting systems and procedures used by the Nation shall conform to general accepted accounting systems and procedures for governments. Enacted by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 25th day of October, 1986. **In Witness Whereof,** the Presiding Officer of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council has hereto attached his signature. Carney Roberts, Speaker, Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

I. The undersigned, certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the minutes of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, comprised of twenty-eight members with 26 members attending this meeting the 25th day of October, 1986, and that the above is in conformity with the provisions therein adopted by a vote of 16 in favor, 9 against, -0- astentions, and that said Ordinance has not been rescinded or amended in anyway and that the above is the signature of the Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Kaye Willie, Recording Secretary

11/22/86 Regular Scheduled Meeting

BILL NUMBER: 11-A TITLE: Declaring Certain Actions of the Supreme Court Null & Void. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Motion by: Frank Kamp, Seconded by Irene Cleghorn. Motion to Approve the Bill 11-A as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Voting results 12 in favor, 10 against, 1 Abstention. Those being against being: Roy Bear, Helen Chupco, Pat Clark, Betty Foster, Tony Hale,Robert Hardridge, Harley Little, Dorothy Miller, Earl Wheeler,

Motion: Carried. The Bill 11-A was approved as read.

The chair called for a 15 minute break at 11:15 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 11:30 a.m.

Next Agenda Item Coming Up: Repealing NCA 86-34 (dated July 14, 1986.

11 B TITLE: REPEALING NCA 86-34 (dated July 14, 1986) The Bill was read and considered as follows: Motion made by Kamp and seconded by Bible to approve 11-B as read. Voting: 15 in favor, 8 agianst and no abstentions. Those voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Cleghorn, Hardridge, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Kamp, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas and Wilson. Those voting No were: Bible, Chupco, Clark, Foster, Hale, Johnson, Little, Miller and Wheeler. Motion carried and shall be recorded as having been approved. Discussion: 11 B - TH/in Section 102 There are not citizenship required/Frank Kamp says that all opinions are similiar in its findings, when our District Judge is less than a quarter. Notes: Frank Kamp made a statement for the records: This statement is to be included in the minutes of this meeting in verbatim form. *"I request that the following statement become a verbatim statement in the minutes of this council meeting." "The National Council has requested and received written legal opinions from Attorney Standingbear, Attorney Almerigi and the American Training & Technical Assistance concerning eligibility to hold office as a member of the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The three opinions are very clear and state that a member of the Supreme Court is an Officer of the Muscogee Nation and as such are required to fulfill Article III, Sec. 4 of the consitution of the Muscogee Nation, which reads, Full citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be those persons and their lineal descendants whose blood quantum is one-quarter (1/4) or more Muscogee (Creek) Indian, hereinafter refered to as those of full citizenship. All Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood who are less than one-quarter (1/4) Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall be considered citizens and shall have all rights and entitlements as members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation except to the right to hold office." The Principal Chief, Second Chief and Representatives to the National Council are required, before taking office to take the following oath, "I DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR (OR AFFIRM) THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY EXECUTE THE OFFICE OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF, (REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL), OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, AND WILL, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. Therefore in the event that the Principal Chief or any member of the National Council attempts to place or retain any person in office who does not meet the Constitutional requirements must be considered guilty of violating the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and their oath of office.*

11 B TITLE: A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING NCA 86-34 DATED JULY 14, 1986 Section 101. The following is the OPINION of George Almerigi, General Counsel, Office of the Justice of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation concerning CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICE. *Section 102.* There has been debate over whether the right to hold office as used in connection with rights of persons less than full citizenship applies only to elected officials or to all offices. Article VII, Section 2 requires members of the Supreme Court to be appointed by the Principal Chief. There are no citizenship requirements expressed within Article VII as to Supreme Court Justices. Membership on the Supreme Court is an Office in that the justices exercise power delegated to them by the Constitution. Article III, Section 4 defines full citizen as used in the Constitution to mean a citizen whose blood quantum is 1/4 or more Creek. Two articles require full citizenship. Article V requires the Principal Chief and Second Chief to be full citizens. Article III, Section 4, states that the Muscogee Indians whose blood quantum is less than 1/4 shall be considered citizens and have all rights and entitlements of Muscogee (Creek) Nation except the right to hold office. Two articles refer to appointment of citizens to Citizenship Board and the Election Board These appointments could be interpreted to include appointees that are not full citizens. The wording as to partial citizens indicates a clear statement that they have no "right to hold office". The word "office" is not qualified as to elected or appointed. The word "right" could be interpreted to limit the type of offices to be held, i.e. offices which a citizen could apply or file for as a matter of right and not an office that is conferred by appointment of Principal Chief confirmed by the National Council There is a definite intent to limit the rights of person with less than 1/4 blood quantum of Creek blood. This limitation makes a person who is not a full citizen a limited citizen. Judging by the fact that the Principal Chief, Second Chief must be full citizens and members of the National Council are required to be full citizens and because the Supreme Court possesses the final word as to judicial decisions of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, it would appear to be better practice to appoint only full citizens to the Supreme Court. *Section 102* The National Council finds: Williard Pittman, a "citizen" of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was nominated by the Principal Chief for the position of Supreme Court Justice. The nomination received the advice and consent of the National Council. The action is a clear violation of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in that Willard Pittman is a "citizen" of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation whose blood quantum is less than one-fourth (1/4) and is therefore not qualified to hold office in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. *Section 103.* NCA 86-34 is a clear violation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and is hereby repealed.

11-C TITLE: ESTABLISHING AN ABSENTEE CREEK POLICY THE BILL WAS READ AND CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS: Motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Kamp to approve 11 C as read. Voting 21 in favor, 1 against and 1 abstention; Voting against was Clark, abstaining was Chupco. Motion carried 11 C shall be recorded as being approved.

11C TITLE A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE CREEK NATION ESTABLISHING AN ABSENTEE CREEK POLICY. Section 101. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds: A. That the Constitution implies that Creek Citizens should share equally in all rights and benefits enttitled to Creek citizens without restriction to residential status. B. That a certain percent of Creek Citizens live outside the political boundaries of the Creek Nation and do not have easy assessibility to service programs operated by the tribe. C. That there exist no clear service policy for Creeks living outside the Nation. *Section 102. DECLARATION OF POLICY.* The service policy of the Nation for Absentee Creeks shall include: A. A census and needs assessment of absentee Creeks shall be conducted by the Nation at a minimum once every five (5) years. B. The Nation shall advocate the development and funding of service programs for absentee Creeks in all areas of health, education, housing, and social welfare. C. That the Nation will disseminate information services to absentee Creeks. D. That the Nation shall advocate the organization of absentee Creeks in other geographical areas and shall provide technical assistance to do so. E. That the Nation shall develop a policy and system for annexing a political territory into the political boundaries of the Nation.

11 D TITLE TULSA URBAN CREEK ACT. The BILL was read and considered as follows: Motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Kamp to approve the Bill as read. Voting: 14 in favor, 7 against and 1 abstention. Voting yes were: Barnett, Bible, Childers, Clark, Cleghorn, Dunn, Foster, Fox, Kamp, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy and Wilson. Voting No were: Bear, Dunson, Hale, Hardridge, Johnson, Miller, Thomas and Wheeler. Abstaining was Chupco. Motion carried and shall be recorded as such. Discussion: Wilson stated that citizens who reside in Tulsa are not eligible for assistance under the required BIA guidelines.

11 D A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ESTABLISHING THE TULSA URBAN CREEK ACT. Section 101. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds: A. That there are over five thousand Creek Citizens living in the Tulsa District. B. That Creek Citizens living in the urban area of Tulsa are not eligible for many of the service prorams operated by the Nation. C. The Creek Citizens living in the urban area of Tulsa are in need of immediate relief. *Section 102. PURPOSE OF ACT.* The purpose of this act is to provide social/economic services to Creek citizens living in the Tulsa District. The purpose of this act shall be met through the provision of financial assistance to Creek Citizens living in the Tulsa District. *Section 103 AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.* There are authorized to be appropriated $1,000,000.00 for fiscal year 1987, from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bingo Account, to carry out provisions of this act. *Section 104 TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.* The following are types of assistance available under this act. A. The provision of emergency assistance for food, shelter, utility, and clothing expenses. B. The provision of assistance for job seeking expenses. C. The provision of emergency health care and medicines. D. The provision of education and training assistance. E. The provision of home rehabilitation. F. The provision of special assistance services. *105. PROGRAM BUDGET.* The following line items are hereby approved as the official budget for this program.

Program Service Coordinator	$14,000.00
Fringe Benefit 30.5%	4,270.00
Office Rent in Tulsa 8.50ft.	4,000.00
Telephone	2,000.00
Office Supplies/Expense	2,000.00
Travel	1,500.00
Direct Assistance	72,230.00
TOTAL PROGRAM BUDGET	1,000,000.00

Section 106. ADVISORY COMMITTE. The National Council members from the Tulsa District shall serve as the advisory committee for this program. They will be responsible for: A. Staff Recommendations. B. Approval of Applications for Assistance. C. Program Advertisement. D. Staff Advisement Direct.

11 E TITLE: Amending NCA 86-64 "CLARIFYING THE FUNDING SOURCE The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Findings: The National Council finds that: A. The National Council authorized and the Principal Chief approved, a beef cattle economic development project totaling $67,400. B. Clarification is need to identify the funding source of the project. *Section 102.* NCA 86-64 is hereby amended at Section 104 to read as follows: "Section 104. Appropriations will be from the Economic Development Fund Account, of they FY 1987 Tribal Budget, Three Year Plan section. The vet bills, feed and hay will be furnished by the Agri-business and then billed to an account set up in Accounting on a monthly basis. Any unexpended funds will be returned to the Economic Development Fund Account. *Section 103.* All other

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'Art Under the Oaks' Gallery Exhibit and Indian Market

We are pleased to annouce that a judged exhibition of basketry, beadwork, pottery, silver, textiles and cabin crafts will be held in April and also an outdoor Indian Market. All festivities will be known as "Art Under The Oaks Gallery Exhibit and Indian Market" and are co-sponsored by the The Five Civilized Tribes Museum and Southwestern Bell. Art Under The Oaks Indian Market will be held the weekend of April 11 - 12, 1987. This is Muskogee's nationally acclaimed Azalea Festival opening weekend and will draw thousands of tourists. Perhaps more moderately priced items will sell best at the Indian Market. The Gallery Exhibit will follow the usual format and of course, we hope you will enter your best work in the competitive exhibit. "Art Under The Oaks Indian Market" will include tables for the artists as well as various activities planned for entertainment and participation. The deadline for entering the Gallery Exhibit and or registering for the outdoor table space is March 27, 1987. For further information concerning all activities please see attached sheets. We hope you are as excited as we are and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call, (918) 683-1701.

EIIGIBILITY: Members by blood of one, or more, of the Five Civilized Tribes (Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole)

PLACE: Five Civilized Tribes Museum grounds, Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Items acceptable for display and sale are those that would fit any of the categories or materials for the Art Under the Oaks Gallery Exhibit plus sculpture, woodcarving, paintings, prints, notecards, books, and other items featuring exhibiting artists. All work shown on the table must be properly represented to the potential buyer. All items sold from a table must be by that individual exhibitor. No wholesalers or dealers or guilds allowed. This Market is for individual artists. We reserve the right to request the removal of any items that do not meet the high standards set by the Five Civilized Tribes Museum.

TABLE SPACE: There will be only 40 table spaces allowed and the tables will be provided free of charge. No individually owned tables allowed. An 8' x 3' table and 2 folding chairs will be provided at no cost. All other props and display materials must be provided by the exhibitor. Table locations will be assigned on a first come, first serve basis Saturday morning April 11, 1987. Distribution of tables and locations will begin at 7 a.m. All exhibitors and their helpers are responsible for their own items and can not leave items on Museum grounds overnight. A limit of 4 persons per table space and passes will be provided for each table space. On the entry blank there is a space for exhibitors to list the names of the persons who will be working their table space. Please be sure to list each helper.

SALES: All items sold will be paid for at Cashier before customer may take item with them. The Museum will take a 20% commission from all sales and the exhibitors will receive their payments after 6 p.m. Sunday, April 12, 1987. Absolutely no illegal sales of any type allowed. Illegal sales are defined as those made without Museum 3-part invoice or not complying with any of the Museum's Indian Market rules. Illegal sales will result in expulsion from Museum grounds and possible ineligibility for future Museum activities.

The Museum expects the highest personal conduct and integrity of all exhibitors and no drugs or alcohol beverages will be allowed. Exhibitors are encouraged to wear traditional clothing during Market days. The Five Civilized Tribes Museum and Southwestern Bell shall not be responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged merchandise nor shall they assume any responsibility for any personal injury.

The Museum would appreciate slides or photos of your work if you have never exhibited or participated in any other Museum shows or activities.

CHECK IN TIME: 7 a.m.Saturday, April 11, 1987; table locations given on a first come first serve basis; therefore it is imperative that if you are accepted you must participate. If circumstances arise that will prevent you from participating please notify the Museum at your earliest opportunity so that another artist may be granted your space - failure to do so will result in possible ineligibility for future Museum activities.

SILVER - Materials used will be limited to sterling or coin silver and to those materials native to Oklahoma and available to the Five Civilized Tribes during the years prior to contact with the Navajo and the introduction of turquoise and copper bearing stones from the Southwest. Use of the turquoise and red horn coral is prohibited by native materials such as flint, agate, native petrified wood, jasper, horn, bone, wood, shell, bird, or animal parts legally usable according to government regulations are acceptable. In design those traditional with the Zuni and Navajo such as squash blossom necklaces are prohibited.

POTTERY — Contemporary pottery forms are accepted although NO slipmolds, greenware, non-Indian or commerical pottery are allowed. Kiln-fired commerical clays and commerical painted pots must be properly labeled. In pottery's long tradition, most examples originated as simple containers for everyday household needs. Clay and tempering materials should be collected and processed by the artists. Traditional shapes and designs are preferred. We recognize the difference in art forms and are dividing this category into 2 classes: wheel-thrown and hand coiled.

BASKETRY - As in pottery, basketry was practiced to provide containers, sieves, strainers, and utensils of various kinds to meet household needs. Items entered in this category must be created by the artist using methods traditional with the Five Civilized tribes of native materials, such as roots and fibers of plants and trees: buckbrush, honeysuckle, willow, pine needles, river cane, split woods, etc. Foreign materials, such as commerical reed and raffia are prohibited. Natural dyes are encouraged.

BEADWORK — Commerical beads were one of the earliest trade items which the Indian obtained in commerce with the white man. Artists entering in this category are encouraged to use any native material they find suitable, such as bone, horn, shell, seeds, with the addition of commerical beads. Designs such as feather headdresses and tipis, which are not of the Five Civilized Tribes heritage will not be accepted in any of the categories. No safety pin beadwork accepted. There will be two divisions of beadwork: commerically bought beads and traditional beads such as bone, shell, horn and seeds, etc.

TEXTILES — The excellence of weaving, quilting, ribbonwork and other textiles submitted in previous competitions has led to the creation of a Textile category. Textiles were an early form of artistic expression for the Five Civilized Tribes, besides being useful in all phases of daily life. Examples of acceptable items: weaving, rugs, blankets, tapestries, clothing, applique, ribbonwork, quilts, shawls, traditional ceremonial garments, sashes. Sewing machine work is acceptable. NO commerical made clothing, liquid embroidery or kits allowed.

CABIN CRAFTS — Any article made by hand in, or for use in, a traditional Indian life style of the Five Civilized Tribes is included in this category. Examples of acceptable entries: toys, bows and arrows, musical instruments, utensils, ball sticks, etc.

DATES: March 27, 1987: Last day to register for table space at Indian Market, April 11 -12, 1987: Indian Market from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (rainout dates are April 18 - 19, 1987.

Bemo Indian Baptist Church News

By Deacon Chebon Whitecloud

On the first Sunday of the November we observed our Lord's Supper. We also had a food sale and garage sale for flood benefit since we were in a flood in October. We are grateful for individuals and churches for giving money in and for repairs.

Thanks to Thlewarle Oakhurst, Broken Arrow, Yardeka and Snake Creek churches.

Also, a special thanks to Amos and Louise Harjo and Bro. Andy Lowe and wife and friend, Carla, for helping to paint the interior of Bemo.

We have two new members. December 14, 1986, we observed our Christmas Pageant and program. We began with Creek songs led by Pastor, Richard Johnson, Andy Lowe and children. Then we had an English program.

We gave candy and fruit out at church to all parents and toys to all children. The toys were donated by the Creek Nation. We thank Etta Conner and Bernice Hale for their support in letting us have the toys for the children. The churches visiting were; Thlewarle, Cedar Creek, Greenleaf, Sand Creek in Eufaula, Broken Arrow, High Springs, Cedar Creek in Eufaula, Snake Creek, Okmulgee Baptist, Yardeka. On December 31, we had all-night New Year's Eve service. The sermon before midnight was by Rev. Alex Lowe and Pastor Jimmie Alexander.

"Hands of Fellowship" and break for refreshment and then testimonies and Sermon by Rev. George Doyle and then breakfast for all was held.

On January 25, the Lord's Supper was held. Jacob Harjo was Chairman.

Deacon Chebon has had several operations on his eyes. He needs your prayers. Easter Sunday will be our fourth Sunday and Communion. There are prizes for all divisions, a special sermon and prizes to senior citizens. Everyone is invited.

Creek Student Receives Magna Cum Laude Honor

Jerry Ann Kraft was awarded the BS Magna Cum Laude by Emporia State University at its annual winter commencement ceremonies in Emporia, KS.

Ms. Kraft was among those honor graduates who were recognized at commencement. Magna Cum Laude graduates completed a considerable portion of the honors program and compiled grade point average of 4.0. Ms. Kraft received her BA in Art Therapy and plans to continue working on a double Master's degree in Art Therapy and clinical psychology. She is Creek and has received educational assistance through CN Tribal Judgement Fund Scholarship Program administered by Higher Ed.

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components of the ordinance shall remain unchanged. Motion was made by Bible and seconded by Primeaux to approce Bill 11 E as read. Voting: 21 in favor, 1 against and 1 abstention. Voting against was Johnson, abstaining was Cleghorn. Motion carried.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

An Amendment to the agenda was made. Items for consideration (11f & 11 G). A motion was by Bible and seconded by Primeaux to place items 11 F and 11 H on the agenda for consideration at this time. Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the being 23 in favor none against and no abstentions. Motion carried.

11 F TITLE: BIA HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM THE BILL WAS READ AND CONSIDERED AS FOLLOWS: A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Johnson to approve the Bill. Discussion was held. Voting: 23 in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried and the Bill 11 F shall be record as such.

11 F: Section 101. Findings: The National Council finds that in order to create an awareness of the life saving importance and purpose of children safety seats, it is the desire of the Muscogee Nation to initiate a series of monthly education classes to enhance the awareness of expectant parents and parents of small children. *Section 102* The National Council approved the "BIA Highway Safety Program". *Section 103.* Therefore the National Council hereby amends the Tribal Contracting Ordinance NCA 86-26 at Section 153 (A) (1) by adding the "BIA Highway Safety Program."

11 G TITLE AUTHORIZING & APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A CPR MANNEQUIN FOR GLENPOOL COMMUNITY. Motion was made by Clark and seconded by Bible to approve the Bill as read. Voting results 18 in favor, 5 against and no abstenstions; those voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Bible, Childers, Clark, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Hale, Hardridge, Kamp, Johnson, McIntosh, Miller, Primeaux, Thomas, and Wilson, voting no were: Chupco, Foster, Little, Stacy and Wheeler. Motion carried, Bill was approved as read and shall be recorded as such. *Bill 11 G AUTHORIZING & APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A CPR MANNAQUIN SET. Section 101. FINDINGS.* The National Council fins that it is of great importance and beneficial to the members of the Creek tribe that every individual, Indian and non-Indian have the opportunity to learn the CPR Technics. *Section 102.* The City of Glenpool does have a cerified CPR that will be instructing the course, and is willing to teach the CPR course to any citizen within the state of Oklahoma. *Section 103.* The National Council hereby appropriates $1,500 from the Bingo Revenue Funds to purchase a CPR Mannaquin set for the Glenpool Community.

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"Continuing Progress For The Muscogee People"

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 3 March 1987 Issue 12 Pages

Cease and Desist Order Goes to State

By Helen Chalakee

An emergency meeting of the United Indian Nations in Oklahoma brought together tribal leaders of more than 19 tribes from eastern and western Oklahoma to formulate a policy to answer to the recent direct attacks made upon tribal sovereignty by the state of Oklahoma.

The Oklahoma Tax Commission's raids of smoke shops on Indian trust land and the lack of protection provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs against the state prompted the state-wide meeting and resulting resolutions.

At a press conference held at the Sac and Fox Tribal Offices on Feb. 25, Jack Thorpe, UINO President and Sac and Fox Principal Chief along with Creek Principal Chief Claude Cox, Chickasaw Governor Overton James, Wyandotte Chief Leaford Bearskin, and Iowa Chairman Lawrence Murray told the press they were ready to take whatever actions necessary to prevent state intrusion on tribal sovereignty.

UINO TRIBAL LEADERS ISSUE RESOLUTIONS DEMANDING THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA TO CEASE AND DESIST all attempts to intrude into Indian Country and its attempts to interfere with the Tribe's rights of self government. Other resolutions called for the immediate dismissal of Assistant Secretary Ross Swimmer and Area BIA Directors, Joe Parker and Pat Ragsdale. Shown at the press conference are:(l-r) Jack Thorpe, UINO President/Sac and Fox Principal Chief, Chickasaw Governor Overton James and Muscogee (Creek) Principal Chief Claude Cox. Other tribal leaders attending the press conference were: Iowa Chairman Lawrence Murray, Wyandotte Chief Leaford Bearskin and Kiowa Chairman Glenn Hamilton.

Thorpe said, "Throughout the history of tribal relationships, unfair treatment has taken place. The majority of our lands were taken by misrepresentation and illegal actions."

"But, the people of the United States, in the form of a government, made treaties with the various Indian Nations. These treaties were based on land transactions, and in return for the land, the federal government gave its word to protect the tribes and their lands from outside interest- the state. Now it comes, that the federal government and the state have forgotten their solemn promises. These promises were made by the federal government and state governments in trade for the lands they took from the tribes," Thorpe explained.

"Since the beginning of our relations with the non-Indians, we have had their laws used against us. The laws took our homelands and moved our people from place to place. Today, we have no place else to go. Because we have no place else to go, we, as the Sac and Fox Tribe have put together a complete government, from administration to the court system. We now have law and order that has the backing of the federal law. We intend to protect our interest," he added.

"We must now use the law to regain, or keep from losing, what little we have left as a people," Thorpe stated, and added, "The United Indian Nations in Oklahoma is now putting the state of Oklahoma on notice that we intend to stand our ground- that being Indian Country!"

Three resolutions formally issued by UNIO demanded that the State of Oklahoma cease and desist all attempts to "intrude into Indian Country and its attempts to interfere with the Tribes' self rights to self government.

Other resolutions demanded the immediate dismissal of Ross Swimmer, Assistant Secretary of the Interior and Joe Parker, Muskogee Area BIA Director and Pat Ragsdale, Anadarko Area BIA Director for not upholding their responsibilities as trustees for the tribes.

Creek Chief Cox stated that in the past, the Creek tribe had worked closely with the Muskogee BIA; "But now they have to answer to Ross Swimmer- they just don't push things through. It's like they're scared to make a stand."

Chairman Murray spoke about the insulting way the state treats Indians. "The state treats Indians as second class citizens. We weren't second class when we defended the U.S. in the armed services, but now they say we have no rights as Indian- that we are acting unAmerican!"

Word was received during the press conference that the U.S. Supreme Court had issued an opinion on the California tribes' case where twenty state attorney generals had requested the justices to make a decision regarding state control over Indian gaming. The opinion was in favor of the tribes. Justice Byron White wrote, *"state and local regulation of Indian bingo games could only take place under consent from Congress. . .",* Congress hasn't given that consent.

William Foster, CN Gaming Commissioner, said, "It is a major victory for the tribal governments; but, Robert Jenkens, an attorney with the Oklahoma Tax Commission, said, "I don't feel we've been hurt that bad, if at all."

Oklahoma Governor Bellmon told the Associated Press, "The action taken by the U.S. Supreme Court. . . helps clear the air. It will now be up to Congress to decide what further steps should be taken." He added, "In our state, it's obvious that this decision creates a great inequity and we will work with the Oklahoma congressional delegation to resolve this."

When Creek Nation personnel visited Congressman Mike Synar in Washington, D.C., Synar told the group that until the Oklahoma Indians started acting as responsible Americans they would not receive any support from the Oklahoma congressional delegation.

In a 2/26/87 Tulsa Tribune editorial the U.S. Supreme Court ruling was questioned and analyzed. . ."*What he (Justice Byron White) seemed to be saying was that Indian survival may be dependent on the exemption of Indians from laws that govern all the rest of us. . .Because many Indians are poor and can't, or won't work in the regular economy, does this excuse them from state laws governing all others? Many non-Indians are poor, too. . .One thing for certain: It's a cinch to make money if you're exempt from law. Most of us would like to profit in ways in which the competition is forbidden to compete. No store could fail if it could sell tax-free goods. . .So far, the courts and Congress have glided over these conundrums. But the day of decison is inevitable."*

"I deeply resent seeing our people die from the lack of proper health care. I resent the lack of education, poor housing, extreme unemployment or underemployment. I resent the hugh federal budget for the American Indian that is eaten up by the Indian Health Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Housing and Urban Development and other administra-

(See CEASE and DESIST ORDER, page 3)

Higher Education Conference Set April 14-16

The Tribal Higher Education Contractors sponsored by OIHESSA will hold its Second Annual National Conference April 14,15 and 16 at the Airport Hilton Inn West in Oklahoma City. Conference registration rates are $100 through April 1, $125 after April 1 or $35 one day only. To receive an application packet contact: Wauneta Sanders, Conference Coordinator, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Higher Education Program, P.O. Box 948, Tahlequah, Oklahoma 74465 or call 918-456-0671, ex. 383

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a montly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $6.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements. Address: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447.

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—NOTICE—
How To Become An Enrolled Member of the Creek Tribe

To become enrolled with the Creek Tribe, the following steps are involved in the application process, according to the Creek Nation Citizenship Board:

1. You must provide evidence of Creek blood by; a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), verified by issuing agency; unbroken chain of birth certificates; court-approved heirship decree or a combination of the above.

2. Make application for enrollment which includes ancestry information with the CN Citizenship Board located at the Creek Nation Complex, telephone 1-918-756-8700 ext. 224 or write; Citizenship Board at PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

The Citizenship Board stated that it usually takes two to three weeks to receive a Creek Citizenship card.

CN Head Start Enrollment Currently Underway. . .

Creek Nation Head Start is taking applications for enrollment for the 1987-88 school year. The locations are: Okmulgee Center, CN Complex; Yeager Center, Rt. 1, Holdenville; Sapulpa Center, 520 S. Adams, Sapulpa; Eufaula Center, 800 Forest Ave., Eufaula. Please bring: statement of income, C.D.I.B., Birth Certificate, and immunization record. You must enroll early because we only have a limited number of vacancies!

Vietnam Era Veterans Inter-tribal Pow Wow Set. . .

The Seminole Nation Chapter of the Vietnam Era Veterans Inter-tribal Association will hold their 1st Annual Pow Wow on March 21, 1 P.M. to Midnight at the National Guard Armory in Seminole. Gourd Dance, 1 P.M.; Supper, 5 P.M.; Resume Gourd Dance, 6:30-8:00 P.M.; Parade In, 8 P.M. Indian arts and crafts are welcome (donations accepted).

Chilocco Benefit Pow Wow-

Chilocco Benefit Powwow, March 21, 1987 at 2 p.m. Stroud Oklahoma held at the Sac and Fox Ceremonial grounds (benefit goes toward scholarship fund). Bring dishes, silverware, and chairs.

OCU Spring Pow Wow. . .

Oklahoma City University is presenting 1987 Spring Pow-wow, sponsored by the Native American Society at the OCU Campus, N.W. 23rd & N. Blackwelder,Frederickson Fieldhouse, March 21, 1987 at 3:00 p.m.-11:30 p.m.

Head Gourd Dance singer is Amos Aitson, Head War Dance Singer is Evans Ray Satepauhoodle, Head Man Dancer is David Seidner, Head Woman Dancer is Cheryl Monetatchi, Head Gourd Dancer is Stuart Tonemah, Emcee is Cliff Reeder, Arena Director is Garrett Medicine Bear.

All singers and dancers are welcome, an evening meal will be served and free arts and craft spaces.

Letter to Creek Nation:

Dear Chief Cox:

Greetings in the name of Jesus. I am sending you a copy of the letter that I mailed to the Muskogee Phoenix paper, in defense of my home and the blessings God has given me.

There was a recent article in their paper. Much of what I did not say and insinuations and remarks changed what I did say. This is to clarify my position in this matter. I will not be a party to destroying the program or Mr. Zeigler, with the help and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks to all had a part in fixing our home.

Recently the Creek Nation funding program moved in and did work on our home located in outskirts of Coweta. This work done on our home was a blessing from God. To state it flatly, our home was terribly run down and no finances to fix it with.

We were facing winter with broken window panes, a bathroom floor you could see the ground through a west wall with sheet rock off in one place, the whole west end of the house was bad. To make matters worse our house was wired in aluminum and the west bedroom had no electric at all, it was pulled in by extension cords. My roof was leaking (had been pouring in). As a result sheet rock was coming down in these areas. The main boards that support the roof was rotting in areas in the back. The edge boards was rotting and falling off. The trim was never finished in the house, faucets had gone bad and I didn't have overflow fixture for worn out tub.

Closet doors were missing as well as one bedroom door. My floors were unfinished hard wood. The house needs painting. Our wood heater had worn out last year (we had already thrown it away). Our stove pipe was held up by bailing wire, and what safety pipe in the ceiling lacked 1/4" reaching into saddle on high side. Front door was loose and falling.

How were we making it - by trusting in Almighty God. Many is the time I've prayed, Father in the name of Jesus protect us and help us. He always protects us and He used the Creek Nation to help us, this time.

This is the things this house received from top to bottom. Brand new roof, all wiring to meet standards. Acoustic ceilings, sprayed with paint and sealer. New trim boards around roof, main roof boards repaired. The entire west end of house torn off. Black felt insulation attached, white siding and trim on the ends. All broken glass repaired - windows trimmed with 1 x 4's (on outside) storm windows set in and caulked around. All outside painted with 2 coats of paint.

Storm doors as well as new metal front door painted to match the interior, front porch painted, walls textured and painted, all new light fixtures throughout house. Paneling attached floors were covered with plyboard material, then covered with no-wax linoleum. Closets and bedroom door put in (after a frame was built to receive the door) all wood was either stained or painted and varnish applied over stains.

My utility room was wired, painted and floored same as rest of house, exposed wires and open door ways were fixed. Wall behind range top fixed with non-flammable panel. No tub and faucets, etc, was put in the bathroom. Walls wains coated with bathroom paneling and to the ceiling behind tub enclosure. Installed was a propane automatic heater. A brand new Wonder Wood Automatic wood stove was installed for heat - new pipe including safety pipe in ceiling and rising to specifications above the roof. All trim was placed in house including in bottom of windows creating pretty ledges. The bathroom vanity top was rebuilt. One wall section was removed and repaired giving more room in the living area. Finally we got concrete steps in the front.

No one owed me anything this cost me nothing. While it is true some of the Acoustic is turning loose, this is found even in new homes.

When we look for perfection, we must look to God - for man is imperfect. And what is imperfect cannot create perfection. Perfection is found only through the blood of Jesus Christ, and this only because of His mercy.

Thank you Lord for your blessings on me.

Servant in Christ Jesus
Jaulice Chalakee, Coweta OK

Letter to Editor:

When the Muscogee Nation News arrives, I read it immediately, from beginning to end. Thank you so much for keeping those of us who are living away from "home" informed on what's happening in our Tribe.

Congratulations to Chief Cox, David Bryant and all others responsible for earning the CAFR award. Thank you for your efforts in our behalf. How proud I am of you and our Creek Tribe!

Hopefully, I will live close enough to attend tribal meetings and functions soon. Until then, I would like to share a thought- Martin Luther King, Jr. was a great leader of his black people. He is honored forever with a federal holiday in January. Geronimo was a great leader of his Indian people. American History brands him just a wild savage. In reality he was one of the greatest of all Indian Chiefs because he resisted long and hard for freedom for his people. Nothing honors his memory.

There were many other magnificent American Indian Chiefs-leaders, who have struggled courageously to save their people from disaster and oppression.

When a federal holiday is declared for at least one of these American Indian heroes, I will observe Martin Luther King Day until then----NO WAY !!

Sincerly, Mary Lou Black, Red Rock OK

Wild Onion Dinners Set. . .

PICKETT CHAPEL

Pickett Chapel, Sapulpa, will be having their Wild Onion Dinner on March 28 from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. It will held at Pickett Chapel Church.

CONCHARTY CHURCH

Concharty Church will be having their Wild Onion Dinner on March 28 from 12:00 noon until 7:00 p.m. The dinner will be held at Concharty Church located 4 miles north of Highway 16 on Bixby Road and 1 mile east.

Twin Hills Indian Community

The Twin Hills Indian Community will be having their monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be April 14, 1987.

Sapulpa Heritage Day. . .

Sapulpa Indian Education Program will hold their 14th Annual Indian Heritage Day, April 11, at Creek County Fairground, 5 miles west of Sapulpa. For more information contact: Dwight Pickering, 224-9322

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER
Continued From Page 1. . .

tions, with very little reaching tribal people.

How do we as family, as people, as tribe, change the political system that does not involve tribal governments?

We change with education, we change with good health. We change with proper living environments. We change the way we interact with state and federal governments. And, we learn to play the game!", said Chief Jack Thorpe.

Creek Vietnam Era Veterans Organize Muscogee Chapter

By Helen Chalakee

A group of Seminole and Creek Vietnam Era Veterans met recently to organize a Muscogee Chapter to the national Vietnam Era Veterans Intertribal Association.

Seminole Chapter Commander Jerry Haney, William (Jr.) Haney and Frank Alexander presented a well laid out plan for structuring that has been successful for organizing the Seminole Chapter.

They also showed a videotape "Shadows of the Warrior" which detailed several accounts by Native American veterans and their struggle to return to a society that has no way of knowing the effects of the war on their brothers. The video deals mainly with the veteran's frustration over the perception of the war (delayed Vietnam syndrome) and purification rituals which some tribes perform with their tribal veterans in trying to work the war out of their systems.

This video will be shown again at a meeting scheduled for Monday, March 23, 7:00 P.M. in the Creek Nation Dining Hall located in the Complex at Okmulgee.

Barton Williams will be coordinating the organizing effort with the Creeks. He is being assisted by John T. McIntosh who will be working the Tulsa area for interested vets.

Messages for Williams may be left with the CN Communication Dept. 918/756-8700. McIntosh may be reached at 918/234-5181 or 486-2913. Willy Haney, Morris, is the acting secretary and will be taking applications for both the national association and the Muscogee Chapter.

Others attending the meeting were: George Wittman, Robert Hardridge, Otis Dunn and Jim Burgess. Others have said they would be attending the next meeting that could not make the first one. Some of the projects discussed for the chapter were forming a color guard to participate in parades and funerals and the erection of a monument on tribal grounds listing those Creeks who served in that era and those who were K.I.A. or M.I.A.

All Vietnam era veterans are encouraged to attend the next meeting. The Muscogee Chapter will be open to all tribes Vietnam era veterans living within the boundaries of Creek Nation.

A MEETING TO ORGANIZE A MUSCOGEE CHAPTER TO THE VIETNAM ERA VETERAN INTER-TRIBAL ASSOCIATION was held recently at the Creek Nation Complex. Participating in the meeting were: Seminole Chapter Commander Jerry Haney, William (Jr.) Haney, Barton Williams, Frank Alexander, and John T. McIntosh. The next meeting is set for March 23, 7 p.m. at the CN Complex. All interested persons are invited to attend. Any tribal affiliation residing within the CN boundaries will be accepted.

Indian Veterans Business Seminar Set March 30-31 at NEOSU

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Fund's Indian and Native Veteran's Outreach Program (INVOP) in conjunction with the Native American Student Association (NASA) will sponsor a Business Development Seminar at Northeastern Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah on March 30-31. All interested Indian veterans, particularly those from Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas are urged to attend the training session.

INVOP was started by the NCAI Fund in late May, 1986 under a Dept. of Labor (DOL) grant, and has operated under an interagency agreement between Labor, the Small Business Administration and the Indian Health Service. The goals of Invop are to help Indian and Native veterans gain employment and to provide technical assistance to those who wish to start their own businesses, to provide collected data to Indian and Native governments and to make recommendations to the applicable federal agencies about how to improve their assistance and services to Indian veterans and to compile data on the demographics and needs of Indian veterans, and will disseminate research data to the tribes and veteran groups for future use.

A similar session will also be held in Billings, Montana March 27-28, 1987.

The Tahlequah seminar will precede the American Indian Symposium which will also be held at Northeastern on April 1-3, 1987. Room reservations for the Business Development Seminar can be made by contacting the Tsa-La-Gi Lodge 918-456-0511, in Tahlequah, OK.

For further information contact Robert L. Prineaux or Robert Holden at NCAI 1-800-342 VETS (toll-free).

OKMULGEE'S CN BINGO HALL OFFICIALLY OPENED WITH RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONIES held February 28 at the new Bingo Hall located on the corner of HWY 75 and Eufaula Street. Present at the Ceremony were; (left to right front), Chief Cox, Okmulgee County Commissioner Tom Duncan and Ray Barnett, manager of the facility.

Editorial By Carter Camp, February, 1987:

Ross Swimmer is Dangerous to Indian Tribes

EDITOR, MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS:

Ross Swimmer's so called stewardship of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and by reflection his leadership of the Federal Government's dealings with Indians has been a complete and abject failure. ***He will be judged by history (Indian history) as the single most destructive person Washington has ever used against the Tribes in America.*** *When he was first appointed, most Oklahoma Indian leadership thought it might be beneficial to the Tribes. After all, he claimed to be one of us and he had served as an elected leader of the Cherokee. We were wrong, very wrong, and history can also record that bad judgement. His forked tounge was well hidden. We thought he could understand our goals and sympathize with our needs.* ***Instead, he understood our weaknesses and is cleaverly using them to threaten our real goal- survival!*** *His policy, like those before him, is to end Indian history by absorbing us into the mainstream (assimilation) or dispersing us across America by taking our land and mis-educating our children (termination). In true Republican fashion, he thinks the way to accomplish his goal is to turn the tribes into corporations and we Indians into shareholders.*

Carter Camp at a 1985 Congressional Hearing held in Tulsa by Senator Nickles. Excerpts from Camp's testimony were used in a recent TV documentary produced by OSU, "Nations Within A Nation".

This is merely a weird new twist to the old 'Great White Father Knows Best' syndrome (paternalism). *It all began with the firm belief that the solution to America's "Indian Problem" was to force us all to be Christian- or to kill us. They did succeed in changing most Indians into Christians- and they killed many, but their "problem" remained. Next they decided their solution was to force us all to become farmers. So, we became farmers, but to their chagrin we remained Indian! They still had a problem. Indian policy followed Indian policy, each was to be a final solution to THEIR Indian problem. Each failed as they came against the intense determination of Indian people to remain Indian and never to dissolve into the melting pot.*

Now comes Reagan, Ross and the Money Boys. Their final solution is to make us all entrepreneurs! I know it seems silly at first glance, but like all the other solutions they can make it sound plausible in Washington and at least its new, so here we go again! History teaches us they will be partially successful. Some Indians will be lost to us. And for some entire Tribes THIS will be the Final Solution to the Great White Father's dreams. But most of us will continue to struggle down a red road until the next solution is thrown in front of us. Maybe, one day, they will win. Maybe the burden of so many Final Solutions will some day grind our future to a halt. But not this one Reagan. Ross will fail. We see them coming.

Ross Swimmer needs an interpreter. *Most Indians need an interpreter so white people can understand them.* ***Not Ross, he needs an interpreter so Indians can understand him. He hides his true meanings very carefully under a rock with other slimy things which hate the light.*** *So someone must search very carefully to find the right rock and flip it over so the light can shine on his real meaning.* ***I VOLUNTEER. It might make me sick when I first understand what he's hiding- but I'll look anyway.*** *It might even scare me when I reveal his real intentions towards our children and our future, but I have faith in the sunlight. I believe that when exposed and correctly interpreted his nefarious plans will die.*

What makes Swimmer's plans especially dangerous is his ability to camouflage his attack with pretty sounding rhetoric. *His goal is to kick our children out of B.I.A. funded schools. But he knows that if he tells the truth he's violating laws and treaties- so he has to lie. He knows Indian parents (like all parents) care deeply about their children's education. He also knows that most Tribes don't have the money to fund their own schools* ***(he should know, since Reagan uses him as a knife to slash Tribal budgets).*** *So, to accomplish his real goal of defunding Indian education, he covers his intent with lies- saying he wants to help our kids get an education. He says that if the Tribes don't take the initiative in educating our youth- "I'll educate them". He really means he wants to place our children in the state system. More subterfuge, another lie.*

Here's some news for Ross: *The Oklahoma history texts of this state's public education system contain direct, racist attacks upon the Cherokee people and by implication all Indian people. These texts form the basis of a required 9th grade course. When our children are forced to learn from anti-Indian texts they are damaged.* ***In fact, Swimmer may be a prime example of a brainwashed Indian who has learned to hate his own.*** *By destroying the Indian schools and forcing our children into the state's system, he hopes to take another stride towards his goal of destroying Indian Tribes.* ***His tactic of attacking our children is not new. We have seen it many times. THE REAL DANGER LIES IN HIS CLAIM OF INDIANNESS.*** *By claiming to be Indian he hopes to cloak his real intention of forced assimilation just as he hides his desire to destroy Indian Schools by saying he cares about the education of Indian children.* ***Its impossible to know if he actually believes what his mouth is spewing forth, or if he can even understand the harmful longrange effects of his proposals. However, the pattern of his work leads most Indian leadership to conclude that his actions are deliberate.*** *He is the worm that bores from within, like Custer's dog, he'll do anything for a pat on the head. He can't understand that to we Indians, education is destructive when it teaches our children self-hatred and inferiority- no matter how well the state can ram the three R's down the throat of our Indian children. He can't understand that to Indian people, an education that leaves our children contemptous of their parents, grandparents and history is not desirable. In fact, the very worst thing that could happen to the Indian Nations is if we allow any education system to turn our children into a bunch of Ross Swimmer types.*

We must all unify in our opposition to Ross Swimmer and what he represents. *But, like the Sioux took the lead in fighting the despot Dick Wilson, I believe it is the responsibility of the Cherokee Nation to lead the fight against Swimmer. He has shamed the Cherokee people and dishonored his former position as Principal Chief. The Cherokee people must reclaim their pride by disavowing Swimmer. I urge the Cherokee people to begin an effort to take away the sell-out's citizenship rights so he can no longer fool people by claiming to be Indian.* ***By kicking Swimmer out of the Tribe, the Cherokee Nation would earn the eternal gratitude of Indian Nations across America.***

The Cherokee Nation has been dominated by white-thinking types for far too long. How long has it been since the Cherokee have been led by a person who could communicate as well in the Cherokee language as they can in English? How can a leader claim to think as an Indian or understand our problems when their background consists of being head of Phillips 66 Oil Company, or a money grubbing banker? They cannot, they can only promise money to a poor people and lead them to their destruction. My fervent prayer is that the post-Swimmer leadership of the Cherokee Nation will take the steps necessary to restore the Nation to its previous glory. The first step is to help stop what the Swimmer regime is doing to the Indian people across America.

Carter Camp

CARTER CAMP, PONCA NATION

Bureau of Indian Affairs Terminates Funding to Oregan Cow Creek Band

Roseburg, Ore. (AP)-The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians closed its offices here after learning the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs had suspended payments for services for the 740 member tribe.

The Bureau decided last week that it couldn't identify who leads the tribe, who is a member of the tribe and whether it has a valid governing document, said Donald Smouse, contracting officer with the BIA.

"It is for us a shock, and is a return to the Indian termination policies of the past," said tribal lawyer Dennis Whittlesey. "We think this is the first of many tribes that is going to be terminated."

Cow Creek Chairwoman, Sue Shaffer said she was outraged by the decision. "I feel this amounts to administrative termination of our tribes, and it puts us right back where we were in 1932 when President Hoover vetoed the last of our recognition bills," she said.

She said tribal offices were closed Feb. 5 and seven staff members have been laid off. Under contract with the BIA, the offices administered a number of programs for the band, many of whom live in Douglas County.

Smouse said the Bureau paid in $310,000 for services last year, including housing improvement and vocational training grants.

Individual tribal members will remain ineligible for some benefits, although it will be difficult to identify tribal members, he said.

Whittlesey said the Bureau's position was illogical and he expected all benefits to Cow Creek would stop. "This tribe has been terminated, it's over, they're dead, they're finished," Whittlesey said. He added, "an appeal to the Bureau would be useless. Appeals cost money, but there is no money, so who is going to pay for the appeal."

"We're talking about a group of very poor people in one of the most economically depressed areas of the country. They're back to where they were before recognition," he said.

Ms. Shaffer said the tribe would continue to have an impact in the area. "We've survived without the BIA since the 1950's and I think we will continue to survive," she said.

Whittlesey said he wasn't sure about the fate of a 28 acre reservation in Canyonville, and said until legal tangles are resolved, the 1.5 million settlement would remain in trust.

A bill introduced in Congress last year would have provided for permanent investment of the principal to finance education, housing improvements, economic development and financial assistance for the tribe's elderly members. However, the bill failed to pass in the rush to adjournment.

Swimmer is too, a snake oil salesman

-Reprint Albuquerque Tribune

Swimmer is selling "snake oil" and he is selling it to the Pueblo Indians who have been subjected to "snake oil" salesman for the past 400 years. The only difference with Swimmer's approach to selling snake oil is that I am not convinced he even knows what he is selling. It seems the only thing he knows is how to sell out.

Swimmer's "new initiatives" are not new at all. The United States Congress through the appointment of school boards, granted the tribes full authority over BIA Indian schools and the states full authority over the certification of academic curricula and teachers in 1978. The only thing Congress did not do is prevent the appointment of Swimmer as the chief executive over the BIA.

Swimmer openly admits the BIA is not capable of doing the job required by Indian education and as the "boss" of the BIA he has decided to give the program away instead of doing his job and ensuring his organization, the BIA, simply comply with law.

Swimmer deserves the "raspberry" as you so justifiably awarded him, and his response deserves another "raspberry", which the record shows he is getting through "Indian Country."

Haskell Alumni Oppose Swimmer

Eight Indian Nations attended the presss conference held February 12 at Haskell to discuss the BIA proposal to charge $850 tuition at its three post-secondary schools. All nations firmly opposed the proposal and claimed that they had not been consulted.

Ed Krank from Navajo announced that his nation, the largest in the United States, opposes the proposal. "Navajo has 6 million for education which has been enough to help only 2000 applicants. Tuition at Haskell would mean we could help even less. Why should Navajo pay tuition at Haskell when our tribe has agreements for free tuition in the states of Colorado, Minnesota, Utah and New Mexico," said Krank.

Council Member Alice Grant, the Sac and Fox Nation, read the position paper prepared by her council. "The proposed $850 charge on Indian students is an outrage...the charge can only lead to the closing of the three schools. The tribes could not afford to send students to these schools when local junior colleges would cost less...education is a trust responsibility of the United States Government."

Fred Thomas, tribal chairman of the Kickapoo Nation said,"We do not support the tuition charge - we will pass a resolution," Thomas said that his tribe was not consulted by Mr. Swimmer before the budget initiatives were published.

Emerson Horse, superintendent of schools for Kickapoo Nation and member of the Hopi Tribe said, "I spoke with the tribal chairman of the Hopi Nation. The Hopi Council is meeting today and opposes the propositions."

George Wahquahbshkuk, tribal chairman of the Potawatomis, announced his tribe's position. "My tribe opposes the propositions."

George Tiger presented the position of the Muscoqee (Creek) Nation, the third largest tribe in the United States. "The proposal we believe is without merit, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation opposes the proposal." Also speaking for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Martha Houle, "The tuition of $850 to some students might as well be $850,000. If it wasn't for Haskell, my husband and I would not have what we have. It isn't much, but without Haskell, we wouldn't have what we do."

Tribal chairman, Joe American-horse, Oglala Sioux, said, "I could sent a representative, but I came here today to ask you students to sign a petition that I can give to Congressman Yates on March 3 to stop the tuition proposal. Pine Ridge has no factories; its hard to get jobs there. Our students have a hard time just getting clothes to go to school."

Thomas Burns spoke for the Cheyenne Nation, "We cannot support a tuition rate at Haskell, SIPI or IAIA. No one can tell me that Indian students can get Pell grants to cover the cost of education."

IHS Cuts Criticized by Congressman

Washington (AP)-A White House proposal to cut $15 million from Indian health care has been critized by Rep. Gejdenson (D-Conn.) who says such care is a "horrible place to pare the federal budget." He suggested that those who would trim such spending ought to be forced to go to an Indian reservation for their own health care.

"Where do you save that much money in a health service that I don't think is providing decent human care to begin with "Gejdenson asked Everett Rhoades, IHS Director.

Rhoades testified before the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee on the Reagan administration's fiscal 1988 budget request of $749 million to provide health care for one million Indians, down from $920 million being spent this year.

Gejdenson appeared angered by Rhoades's statement that "the health status of Indians has improved dramatically" in the past three decades.

"Would you want your family to receive the type of treatment Indians get?" Gejdenson asked.

Rhoades said he would not hesitate to use Indian Health Service facilities, adding that Indians' access to good medical care "is not significantly different" from other Americans.

Gejdenson shot back, asking if Rhoades' analysis also applied to the Oglala Sioux in South Dakota- who live in one of the poorest counties in the nation. "The answer to your question has to be no," Rhoades said.

"Why should they get a lower standard of care than the Americans who got her later?" Gejdenson asked.

"The answer is very clear. They should not," Rhoades replied. The health service director acknowledged that per capita medical care spending in the U.S. is about $1,450 annually, compared to $600-700 for Indians.

"You're saying it's about half the money , but you don't think they're getting half the care," Gejdenson said.

Indian Senate Select Committee Chairmen Say IHS Cuts Cannot Be Tolerated. . .

Washington, D.C.- Senator Daniel K. Inouye and Daniel J. Evans, Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, announced the Committee's response to the Administration's budget for Indian programs for fiscal year 1988. Inouye and Evans urged prompt action by the Congress on the matter of proposed cuts in the Indian Health Service budget, saying "the extraordinary reduction in funding levels.. is simply astounding and cannot be tolerated."

Both Senators believe that such cuts "reflect a growing and callous disregard of the long-standing trust responsibility of the federal government to Indian tribes. In the case of health care cuts, tribes stand in real fear of having the very lives of their members jeopardized by the Administration and this must not continue," they said.

Contained in a report filed with the Senate Budget Committee, the response notes the universal opposition in Indian Country to certain non-budget policy initiatives proposed by the White House. According to the report: "the common thread of this opposition is the lack of consultation on the part of the Administration prior to initiating these proposals." In the absence of consultation, "Congress is deprived of the benefit" that tribal input would provide.

EDITORIAL:

Indian Education Funds Should Be Used By Indians For Indians

NOTE: The following statement was presented by Helen Chalakee, JOM Mother, CN Communication Manager, to the Human Development Committee of the Muscogee National Council last year, March 18, 1986, when a resolution was submitted to the committee asking the Council to support the transference of JOM funds to state control. As of this date, March 1987, the issue is still unresolved by the National Council and the federal government.

I want to establish that I am here only to present my personal concerns and share with you some national Indian concerns pertaining to the tranference of Johnson O'Mally funds to state control. My opinions are not necessarily those of the Principal Chief, the Second Chief or the CN Divisional Directors. Mine are opinions that have been formed taking into account past and recent legislative attempts attacking our tribal sovereignty.

I perceive the tranference of JOM funds to be administered by the states as a political smokescreen devised by the newly appointed Assistant Secretary of the Interior, Ross Swimmer, in an attempt to dismantle the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

While serving on President Reagan's Commission on Reservation Economy Task Force, Swimmer recommended to the President to do away with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Although the B.I.A. has not been a savior to the Indian people, it is all we have to legally carry out the trust responsibilities to Indian Nations by the federal government.

Verbally, Swimmer backed down when he began receiving flack from the Indians about his recommendation. Silently, he has just kept right on schedule with his 'termination' plan. As much as Indians dislike B.I.A. bureaucracy, a lot of the tribes are not prepared to be left hanging, or thrown out to the world on a one-on-one basis, and Swimmer knows this truth well.

In an attempt to carry out his recommendation to the President, Swimmer is nibbling away at our sovereignty. JOM can be considered a nutrient to our children's education, one they can receive only if it is administered by Indian people themselves. Bite by bite, Swimmer keeps chewing at us, trying to absorb our nutrients to be consumed by state control. He advocates state control in every message he put across. If all our nutrients are absorbed by the states, then we would get what is expelled. That leaves us with- you know what!

Under the 1975 Indian Self-determination and Indian Assistance Act, the federal government made into law the right for Indian tribes to contract the JOM program from the federal government. This right was given to the Indians if they wanted it because the states were simply not proving capable of understanding the needs of Indian children and were using the funds however they wanted and on whomever they wanted. Congress has established "rights" for Indians, such as the "right" to compensatory federal expenditures for education and welfare. *Compensatory* means to make up for what is inferior of deficient. But these "rights" are as precarious as the way they look at treaties. They seem to depend, for their continued existence on the political muscle of the Indian people.

For some reason, Creek Nation chose not to contract and administer the special intended education for our Indian children. However, many other tribes did choose to oversee what they feel to be an all important matter. As it now stands, Indian children hold a unique position in being educated, in that our own people can determine their needs. Some tribes have now developed very strong Indian parent committees with educationally oriented members of their tribe running the show.

Last year when JOM was eliminated from the Bureau budget, hundreds of JOM mothers marched on Washington, D.C. and lobbied for its reinstatement. As a result, JOM was reinstated into the Bureau budget.

While the avowed intention of federal policy is to promote Indian Self-determination, in reality a myriad of political and economic forces conspire to steal away at our sovereignty. These things are not supposed to happen. By law it isn't possible. But, when it comes to Indian, a lot of things that aren't supposed to happen, somehow do.

For the first time in history Indian people are close to securing a significant role in deciding our own destiny. Just when tribes have begun to train their own experts, win some battles in court and exercise a substantial degree of control over their own resources (and JOM is a resource to be used to protect the unique status of Indian people through Indian oriented education) our sovereign existence is threatened by state control, budget control and mind control.

The proposed JOM transfer contains a come-on, a hold-harmless clause. But initially, JOM will take almost a 2 million cut, just like everything else. After that its supposed to hold for another year- then who knows what will happen. This state has skillfuly maneauvered some of the Indians into lobbying for the legislation. they have them denouncing the ability of Indian tribes to oversee this very important portion of Indian education and into thinking "hold harmless" is forever. The Senate Select Committee in Washington D.C. is opposed to the transfer. At least they are recognizing their mandate.

Instead of supporting ambiguous legislation, we should be fighting for our children's education to be placed under 'protected status' in the Bureau budget. An overall scheme has been concocted to reduce the effectiveness of tribal governments to manage their own affairs. This is clear in every self-imposed policy the Assistant Secretary issues.

We are not a Public Law 280 state which has been chartered under the state of Oklahoma. We negotiate ONLY with the federal government which is authorized in treaty after treaty, federal legislation after federal legislation. To give up a single program is just the beginning of giving away our sovereign status within this state. Next, they will want to administer our social service and health programs.

I urge you NOT to support a 'do pass' on this legislation to transfer JOM funds until each of you can feel you are not commiting a permanent disasterious effect on our tribe and every tribe who values this program. Recently, we spent hundreds of thousands of dollars defending our sovereign status from state control. Why should we turn around and give up a single portion of that- never to be retrieved if it is a mistake.

THE BRISTOW INDIAN COMMUNITY, REPRESENTED BY VERA MASON, left, Chairman of the Community, presents Negiel Bigpond, President of the Morning Star Outreach, with a grant in the amount of $10,000. Present also is Pat Presson, Secretary of the Community, Principal Chief Claude Cox, and Pauline James, Community Vice-Chairman.

Bristow Community Presents Check to Indian Outreach

By Rita Williams

The Bristow Indian Community presented a $10,000 check to the Morning Star Drug/Alcohol and Inhalant Awareness Program at the Bristow Indian Community site, February 23, 1987.

Neigel Bigpond, President of the Outreach Program accepted the check expressing his appreciation for the support and gave the overall view of how the program will work and long-term goals of the program.

The Morning Star Outreach, located in Bixby Oklahoma, is a program that developed from the parent organization, Morning Star Music Ministries. The ministry is also active in a Prison Outreach and have been volunteers in the Oklahoma Institutions across the state. Through the experience and information from working with inmates it has been explained that drug and alcohol has played a part in their imprisonment.

There is a reoccuring incidence of alcoholism & drug abuse from generation to generation among Native American youth and the fact that there is now no Native American rehabilitation youth center in the state of Oklahoma has presented another need.

Along with the problems comes the abuse of Inhalants(sniffing) among our people, not only the young but the elders as well. Many Indians ascribe that inhalants are a major problem for those younger children in the age category of 7-12. Inhalants such as correction fluids, thinners, office machine chemicals, gasoline, spray paints and other household cleaning products which are easier to obtain and therefore pose another concern for young Indian people.

According to a statement made by Steven Unger, Executive Director of the Association on American Indian Affairs in a testimony hearing by the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, he stated, "According to 1980-81 data from Western Behavorial studies 30% of Indian youth in grades 7-12 have tried inhalants. Drop-out rates show that drug use effects school attendance, only 5.3% of Native American Youth complete high school.

Shirley Ehn, R.N., with the Hillcrest Medical Center Adolescent Careunit for Chemical Dependency has been instrumental in the developing of this program. She has had 18 years of experience with drug and alcohol programs working with the Tulsa Indian Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse and developed the Native American Prevention while working there stated, "There is a need for Native American Counselors in this area. Due to the racial barrier, their efforts in reaching the Native American Youth in the early stages of chemical dependency have not been successful."

With the help of Shirley Ehn and the Adolescent Care Unit recognizing the need to reach the Native American Youth has assisted the Morning Star Drug/Alcohol and Inhalant program by providing three scholarships to attend the IMPACT Training, which provided 40 hours of certified training for Alcoholism/Drug Counselors.

Neigel explained, "The early substance abuse prevention/intervention program aimed specifically at Native American youth will provide Native American role models who will create an awareness of the dangers of abuse and alternatives to that abuse and to identify persons in need of further help and refer those individuals to appropriate assistance. There is a specific need for Native American outreach workers, who will understand that specific needs of Native American youth while honoring their cultural heritage.

The Awareness Program intends to bring their awareness program to all Indian schools in Oklahoma as well as to school systems with a heavy concentration of Native American youth. "We also intend to bring this program to the community churches to acquaint Native American parents with the problem. Where a short term need for treatment exists we will act as referral and follow-up counselors to existing programs."

Some of the goals are, to create awareness of substance abuse through counseling and audio/visual presentations, establish community awareness of the immediate problem, provide sober Native Americans outreach workers as positive role models, establish a Hot Line for emergency assistance and referral, and long-term goal is to establish a Native American Rehabilitation Center for youth."

Those currently involved with the Outreach are Rita Williams, Creek, of Okmulgee, Jack Sunagoowie, Cherokee, of Broken Arrow and Gwen Harry, Choctaw, of Mounds.

These serve as Coordinators and are receiving professional training in workshops and conferences offered by institutions as Hillcrest Medical Center and Universities that offer programs on Chemical Dependency and Inhalants. They recently attended a conference in Tulsa, The International Native American Solvent Abuse Conference sponsored by the Native American Research and Technical Assistance Center Inc.

The Awareness Program is already in progress using presentors as Dan O'Canas a former Inmate of McAlester and Jim Riley, a recovering alcoholic and former football player of O.U and Miami Dolphins.

The Outreach is in the process of video-taping interviews with Indian Health Directors, Psycologist, youth that have used inhalants, probation officers, and elders that have been former sniffers as well. These interviews have been with Native Americans experienced in the field and with the grass roots people across the United States.

"Neigel stated, "We are deeply concerned of all areas that are attacking our generation of tomorrow, but one main concern is the use of inhalants, because of how quickly the sniffer can die and the long term effects it has on the mind and body."

The funding for this program has been a labor and because of our concern to reach these young people we have set our hearts to time spent in prayer and without people as Bristow Indian Community seeing the need to respond with funding, it would be almost impossible to reach out to the extint of our qoals." He stated, "We are not seeing how much money we can get, but how much good the program will do, and the funding doesn't stop here but is a continual plea. We have only begun and with those whom God will use and staff with the heartbeat of the vision we will endeavor to take steps toward the problems attacking the mind and body of our young Native Americans. Alcohol, Drugs and Inhalants were never the way of our ancestors, its time we as tribes of all nations begin to come in harmony and unite that circle of unity around the youth of today, who will be the generation of tomorrow."

(OUTREACH continued...)

Adolescent Chemical Dependency Workshop

By Rita Williams

IMPACT an Outreach of Adolescent CareUnit Hillcrest Medical Center, presented an Education Conference School approach to Adolescent Chemical Dependency for one week held at Hillcrest Medical Center, Tulsa Okla.

Those attending the five day conference were, Rita Williams, Creek Nation, Neigel Bigpond and Jack Sunagoowie.

The conference covered, Chemical Dependency, Adolescence and Chemical Dependency, The Family, Intervention Process, Group Process, and The School Program and How It Works.

Adolescent drug abuse has increased rapidly in recent years, causing great concern for those who see how it damages their children or their students. This concern prompted a large suburban high school to initiate a program to identify and help students who are abusing drugs, including alcohol.

Two years of daily contact with the students form the basis for the pattern presented. Hours of discussion with students-about their drug use, their self-images and their relationships with others-have revealed that drug abuse can quickly and severly damage them. Naturally, not all students fit into all of the stages shown.

Two years of daily contact with the student's position on the chart can help to determine whether he or she needs a referral for primary in patient treatment for chemical dependency, or some other kind of intervention is necessary.

1. Experimental Use

Junior high-age students, especially boys, are great experimenters with various types of mood-altering substances. Some may never go beyond the experimental stage. They may decide that chemical use is not for them. But a majority of them will continue to experiment an become regular users. They will use beer and pot in this stage, and will learn to seek and enjoy the mood swings that these substances will

(WORKSHOP continued on page 7)

(TULSA IMPACT WORKSHOP continued...)

provide. A child who exhibits abuse at this stage may be establishing a lifelong pattern or the chemical use may level off and stay at the "social-recreational" level, causing no intrapersonal conflict or externally harmful consequences. It is difficult to assess chemical dependency at this stage. The normal turmoil of adolescence is baffling to both teenagers and their parents, and caution is advised in any evaluation procedure. Many students have been inappropriately labeled as dependent when in fact they are not. They may be using drugs, but that fact alone does not make them dependent.

2. More Regular Use

Simply using more does not, by itself, indicate dependency. But a pattern of regular use, coupled with some adverse behavioral changes, can show a definite move towards possible dependency. The point here is not how much is being used, or how often, but why it is being used and what behavioral changes occur as a result of the use. If teenagers have to lie to their parents about their savings accounts, about why they have dropped out of school sports or other activities, or about who their companions are, and have to maintain these fictions in order to continue using drugs, they will begin to experience real guilt. This guilt produces feelings of intense self-hate, which results in increased drug use. A cycle of use-guilt-remorse-increased use begins.

3. Daily Preoccupation

Preoccupation with drugs is one of the major indicators of a chemical problem. More and more of the student's time, energy and money are spent on thinking about being high and insuring that a steady supply of drugs is available. Questioning a user at this stage will reveal that very few of his or her daily activities do not include drug use. The user accepts this as normal. Problems with parents or police may serve to cause the abuser to decide that it would be smart to cut down or to quit using all together. And they may succeed for a few weeks. Generally though, these periods of abstinence will not last. They do serve, however, to strengthen the abuser's sincere delusion that, because he or she "quit," there is no problem. It can be pointed out to the abuser that, even though he or she feels that there is still a choice as to whether or not to use, the "choice" is always the same; to keep using.

4. Dependency

By the time the user has reached a state of dependency, negative personal feelings have been building steadily until they require daily, even hourly, medication with drugs. Abusers in this state are unable to distinguish between normal and intoxicated behavior. To them, being high is normal, and no rationale or moral argument can break through their chemically maintained delusion. This delusion persists even in the face of overwhelming evidence that his or her abuse is out of control and is physically, mentally and emotionally strangling him or her. The abuser will continue to insist that there is no problem, that it is not out of control, and that he or she can quit at any time.

As the periods of adolescence draws to a close and the teenager has successfully moved through the other critical issues he/she will hopefully emerge having established a personal identity. This results after the adolescent moves away from his/her peer group and develops a more individualized sense of "Who I am; What I believe; and Where I am going."

New Arrival...

Martin Wayne Littlebear

IT'S A BOY!

Grant Edwin Littlebear and Betty Jo Watson announce the birth of Martin Wayne Littlebear, born at Claremore Indian Hospital. He weighed 7 lbs. and measured 22 inches long. His grandparents are Newman and Ruby Littlebear, Kellyville, and Sam Watson of Hanna and Lechita Watson of Sapulpa. He has five uncles, four aunts, three great-uncles and three great-aunts.

C.N. Princess Pageant, April 11, 7:00 p.m.

Central Baptist Seminary Offers Scholarship Program

Dear Friends:

In recognition of the contribution of Chief Charles Journeycake in the establishing of Central Baptist Seminary and the continuing contribution of Native Americans in the life of the seminary, Central has established a Native American scholarship.

Native Americans who hold either the B.A. or B.S. degree qualify for a full tuition scholarship at Central Baptist Seminary. This covers all three years in the Master of Divinity degree program.

Will you kindly advise Native Americans of this opportunity to train for the Christian ministry. Thanks.

Contact: Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Seminary Heights, Kansas City, Kansas 66102 or 913/371-5313. Sincerly, Fred E. Young

***THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SIGN LANGUAGE** is performed at the First Annual Okemah Indian Community Pow-Wow by Sunny Marshall, a student in the Okemah School System and the daughter of Famous and Lena Marshall, Okemah. The Pow-Wow was held to benefit the Okemah School Indian Club at the Okemah Armory February 28.*

First Annual Okemah Indian Community Pow-Wow a Success for School Indian Club

By Kathryn Bell

The First Annual Okemah Indian Community Pow-Wow was held February 28 at the Okemah Armory. The Pow-Wow, coordinated by Lee and Geneva Larney, was held to help benefit the Okemah School Indian Club.

According to a Pow-Wow Benefit spokesman, $900-$1,000 was raised benefitting the Okemah Indian Club and the Okemah Indian Community.

The Benefit Dance started with Gourd Dancing at 2:00 p.m. with supper served at 5:30 p.m. In addition to the exhibition dances, a Creek stompdance was held as well. Arts and Crafts were on display and raffles were held.

The Head Staff included; Master of Ceremonies, Willie Meeks; Head Singer - Wiley Little Creek; Head Man Dancer - Clarence Yarholar; Head Lady Dancer - Penny Murray; Head Little Boy Dancer - Matthew Henneha; Head Little Girl Dancer - Noreen Standing Elk; Head Gourd Dancer - Mike Tsotaddle.

Guest Drum were the Redland Singers, Co-Host of the Pow-Wow was the New Nation Inter-tribal Pow-Wow Club and Arena Directors were Sam Grass and Frances Deer.

In spite of the bad weather which forced a change in the schedule of dances, the Pow-Wow was considered a success.

The officers of the Okemah Indian Community were recognized at the Pow-Wow - they were; Chairman - Frances Lowe, Vice-Chairman - Florence McElroy, Secretary - Ernestine Henneha and Treasurer - Christine Burgess.

"We feel that our first Pow—Wow was a success and we hope to have one again next year," said Ernestine Henneha, Community Secretary.

A group of Indian students from the Okmulgee schools, brought by teachers Pat Wilson and Glenda Sullivan, participated in the Pow-Wow.

Okemah Middle School Holds Indian Cultural Day Events

As a part of the Okemah School Indian Cultural activities, the Okemah Middle School elected to have Friday, February 27 as their Indian Awareness Day, according to Title IV Counselor, Freeman Zunigha. Indian foods were served in the cafeteria and an afternoon program was planned in the auditorium. The program featured a videotape and presentation given by Gary Robinson of the tribe's Communications Dept., on the progress of the Creek tribe.

In addition, Indian student, Robin Smith, gave the Lord's Prayer in sign language before the Creek cultural presentation.

Creek Band Students Place First for Okemah

Two Creek members of the Okemah Band placed First at a School Band Competition held at OBU in Shawnee, February 28.

The two Indian students, both enrolled in the Okemah Middle School, were; Michelle Hulbutta, 11, and daughter of Ernestine Henneha of Okemah and Melody Grant, 11, daughter of Robert and Rena Grant of Okemah. Both girls play the trumpet.

—OBITUARIES—

Paul E. Johnson

Paul Eugene Johnson 25-year old resident of Morris, died in a fire in his home Saturday, Feb. 21.

Paul was born Jan. 15, 1962 in Okmulgee, and was a student at the American Technical College in Muskogee.

He is survived by his father, Cy Johnson of Tahlequah; his mother Rose Marie Johnson of Morris; four brothers, Cy Johnson, Jr., Solomon Johnson, and Joseph Johnson, all of Morris, and George Johnson of Okmulgee; and five sisters, Wanda Mills and Jessina Torres, both of Morris, Phyllis Brown and Geri Yocham, both of Okmulgee, and Beverly Grummett of DePew, Okla.

Wake services were held at the Buchanan Memorial Chapel Tuesday Feb. 24, at 7 p.m.

Mr. Johnson was taken to Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church at 4. p.m. Wednesday.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday Feb. 26 at Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church. Rev. Dan Phillips and Rev. Lewis Bible officiated. Interment was at the Grave Creek Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Jesse Barnett, Terry Cobb, Charlie LaSarge, Bourbon LaSarge, Lance Ashburn, Richard Harley, Doug Brush, Jeff Goodman, Larry Sharp, Dale Conner, and Clay Lee.

Edith B. Fox

Edith (Brown) Fox, age 81 died Thursday night in St.Joseph hospital Bryan Texas, on January 29, 1987. Mrs Fox was born November 15, 1905 at Natura, Okla in the Creek Nation, Indian territory. She was a member of the Christian Science Church in Tulsa and finished high school at Tulsa Central and married Milden J.Fox. She was co-owner of Jean Fox Beauty Shop in Tulsa from approximately 1924 until her retirement in 1967. Mrs Fox was preceded in death by her husband Milden Jean Fox, in 1966. She moved to Bryan Texas, three years ago.

Memorial services were held on January 31, 1987 at Callaway-Jones Funeral home in Bryan Texas. Graveside services and interment was February 2, 1987 in Memorial Park Cemetery in Tulsa Okla, beside her husband.

Survivors include a son, Dr. Milden J Fox Jr. (Bob) of Bryan Texas; a daughter Mr. John F. Saye (Frankye) of Houston Texas; five grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren; all of Bryan or Houston Texas. She has one surviving sister, Flora Hendrix of Natura, Okla.

Mrs. Fox was the youngest child of Robert Sherman Brown and Eliza (Bell) Brown of Natura. She was also a relative of the Perryman family of Texas. Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Disease Foundation, 360 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Ill. 60601

Buddie Harjo Jr.

Buddie Harjo, Jr. 52-year old resident of Weleetka, died in Okemah on Monday, Feb. 23.

Mr. Harjo was born June 14, 1934 in Okfuskee County. He was an ironworker and a member of Thewahle Indian Baptist Church.

He is survived by his mother, Hattie Harjo of Weleetka; five sons, Leslie Harjo of Okmulgee, Wesley Barnett of Oklahoma City, Robin Harjo of Hannah, Robert Fatterfield, and Sammy Harjo; two daughters, Tammy Harjo of Hannah and Loretta Bullet of Okmulgee; six sisters, Mildred Fields and Peggy Carter, both of Okmulgee, Myrtle Barnett and Lucille Burge, both of Weleetka, Margaret Gann of Tulsa, and Louise Fish of Dustin; and three brothers, Benny Harjo and Muriel Harjo, both of Fort Worth, and Albert Harjo of Tulsa.

Funeral services were conducted at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26, at the Thewahle Indian Baptist Church. Interment was at the Wiley-Watson Cemetery in Dustin.

Reverend James Yeager

Funeral services for retired Minister James Yeager, 81, were held February 23, 1987 at 1:30 p.m. Monday at the Hitchite Methodist Church. Reverend John Lowe officiated and burial was in the Hitchite Cemetery.

Reverend James Yeager was born Dec 20, 1905 in Seminole, Oklahoma to Matt and Mollie Perryman Yeager. He passed away on February 21, 1987 at the Baptist Medical Center, OKC.

He was raised in a family with 7 brothers and 1 sister. He leaves two brothers-William and John.

He was a life long member of the Seminole Hitchite United Methodist Church.

He became a minister for the Methodist Church, The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference in 1947. He began his pastoral charge in the Mission field under District Supt. W.U. Witt. Later he became an Ordained Elder in the Methodist Church. From the Mission Fields, he received appointments to various established churches in the Conference and continued his ministry until he retired in 1971 at the Annual Conference in Preston, OK. After his retirement he continued his ministry serving wherever he was needed. He loved the Lord, his church and the people and never refused a call to preach or be of service if at all possible. He would gladly accept invitations to offer his service. He continued the Lord's work until he became ill on January 30, 1987. He entered the Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City and remained there until his death on February 21, 1987.

His favorite English hymn was "I love to tell the Story of Jesus and His Love" and favorite Creek hymn was "Este mvn es kn ful yvts kvt".

Survivors include 2 sons-Newman of Maud, OK; James Edward of Okmulgee; 3 daughters-Beth Coker of OKC; Blanche Beaver of Del City; and Mable McNac of Morris; 16 grandchildren and 21 great grandchildren; 2 brothers-William of Seminole and John of Leon KS; and host of neices, nephews and relatives.

Pallbearer were Steven Yeager, Houston Yeager, Jr., Perry Beaver, Pete Beaver, David Little, Buddy Little, Foster Yeager, and Charley Bell. Honorary bearers were Togie Lewis, Taylor Harjo, Vernon Haney, and Jack Larney.

Eufaula Indian Community News . . .

By Rita Williams

The Eufaula Indian Community held their monthly meeting February 5, 1987, at the Eufaula Dormitory cafeteria.

Gary Breshears and Buddy York were present to discuss the community building. Final arrangements are being made between the committee and administration.

Other business actions were the vote of the community to leave the constitution the way it stands.

The community is presently in the process of obtaining a smoke shop at the old manpower building in Eufaula. The smoke shop will serve as support for the upkeep of their building.

Also present was Eddie Lara who ran for school board member in Eufaula. He thanked the community for the support they gave.

The board members are: Chairman-Ken Tiger, Vice-President-Tom Pickering, Secretary-Harriette Tiger, Treasurer-Taylor Phillips, Board members at-large-John Marshall, Frank Kamp, and Van D. McIntosh.

The community meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Wetumka Indian Community News . . .

By Sammie (Tubbie) Yargee

The Wetumka Indian Community held their monthly meeting on February 2, 1987. The area of business was the election of new officers, they are: Chairman-David (Chief) Harjo, Vice-Chairman-David (Sonny) McKinney, Secretary & Treasure-Jonas Dunson.

The community also held their Valentine Party on Thursday night, February 12, 1987. The Valentine Sweetheart queen was 3 year old Andrea Taylor, daughter of Albert and Dee Ann Taylor. Sweetheart King was 2 year old David Lewis, son of Pam Harjo and Tommy Lewis. The time was spent in fellowship, playing games and refreshments.

The community urges all the area people to attend the community meetings held on the first Monday of every month.

CN RODEO CLUB QUEEN PAGEANT JUNE 19, 1987

Contestant Deadline May 18

Attention Older Americans!

55 may be the speed limit but not the age limit! If you are over 55 and would like to receive free training for a new career, please call this number - 918-756-6833.

This is a government-sponsored program for senior citizens starting in February. Call now and ask for Jessie Hendrickson of the Eastern Oklahoma Development District Area Agency on Aging. They are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

The following training courses are available; Home Health Nurse Aide, Small Engine Repair, Upholstery and Leather Craft.

ALEXANDER POSEY POETRY CONTEST

ELIGIBILITY

Creek students, grades 4 through 12, who are enrolled in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are eligible to enter this contest. Applicants may also reside outside the Creek Nation boundaries.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION

No more than two poems from each student. Must be very neatly printed or typed. Student name, address, school, and grade must be included on upper right hand corner. We are looking for originial, creative work, and strongly encourage no use of patterned rhyming.

PRIZES

There will be six prizes awarded during the Creek Festival '87 in the following divisions: 4th through 6th grades, 7th through 9th grades, and 10th through 12th grades. Each winner will be awarded a cash prize and a certificate. There are three in each category: 1st Prize-$25; 2nd Prize-$15; and 3rd Prize-$10.

DEADLINE

1. Entries must be post marked no later than Monday, June 1, 1987.
2. Attach photocopy of Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship card.
3. Mail to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Communication Dept. Poetry Contest, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447.

Creek Language Classes...

If any Creek Nation Community needs a Creek language teacher, call me and I will be glad to come there and teach. Telephone 405-670-4048 and leave information so I can call you back, or write me: George Bunny, 2941 Cashion Place, Oklahoma City, OK 73112.

Creek Completes Basic Training

AR Enid Lynn Deere, Creek, from Okemah, has recently completed Navy Basic Training in Orlando, Florida.

A 1985 graduate of Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah.

She is stationed at Norfolk, VA currently.

Enid will be stationed next year in Sicily, Italy as her assignment.

She is the daughter of Rosalee Deere of Okemah and the late Eunice Woodrow Deere. Her grandparents are Selee and Isaac Deere of Okmulgee.

PRINCESS
PAGEANT
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PRINCIPAL CHIEF CLAUDE COX WITH THE WINNERS OF LAST YEAR'S CREEK NATION PRINCESS CONTEST: left to right, Nikki Skeeter, First Runner-Up, Creek Princess Melinda Taryole, and Jaulice Watson, Second Runner-Up. The Pageant is held in the Mound Building each year.

Creek Princess Contest Deadline March 25

Last year before a standing room only crowd, Ms. Melinda Taryole, of Henryetta was crowned Creek Nation Princess. The Pageant Committee was very pleased with the interest people showed in last years pageant, by supporting the contestants with their attendance of the event.

Twelve beautiful, young Creek women, competed for the title and scholarship money, each displaying outstanding talent and poise.

This year the committee has gained three new members, Pat Morgan, Jeri On the Hill and Kathy Brown, will be working with Steve Wilson, Rachel Thomas, Anita Tecumseh Chiquita Juneau, and Jimmy Jones. The Committee has been meeting since the beginning of January for this year's pageant, which will be held in the Creek Nation Mound Auditorium on Saturday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.

(CN PRINCESS CONTEST continued...)

Dr. Ruth Arrington who has officated as M.C. in the past years will continue to enhance the program, with the description of traditional dress and talent.

The Creek Nation Princess, will receive a $500 scholarship from the Office of the Principal Chief, and other gifts from communities and the Committee. She will represent Creek Nation as a good-will ambassador by attending many functions during the her year of reign. Deadline for applications will be March 25, for more information contact Rachel Thomas, 918-366-3300, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447

CN Rodeo Queen Contest Deadline May 18

The Creek Nation Rodeo Club is still accepting applicants for the 1987 Creek Nation Rodeo Queen. The deadline to enter contest is May 18, 1987. If you are interested in applying please do so right away as the contestants must have time to sell ads. The contest rules are :

1. Must be at least 1/4 Creek Indian by blood(CDIB copy must be attached to entry form).
2. Must be a current resident of the state of Oklahoma.
3. Must be single, never been married or get married during her reign as queen or forfeit her title.
4. Age limit is 16-25.
5. Must be able to ride a horse.
6. Must own or provide her own horse.
7. $25.00 entry fee.
8. The queen will be expected to represent the Creek Nation Rodeo Club in various activities throughout the year.
9. The contestant will sell ads as a part of the contest.

Judging will be as follows: 50% for Horsemanship, 30% for Ads sold, 20% for personality and western appearance. For entry form and more information contact: Creek Nation, 756-8700.

Rita Williams-Coordinator-ext.328
Kathryn Bell-Assistant-ext.326
Rhonda Williams-Ads Committee-ext.338.

The Creek Nation Rodeo will be a three-day event this year due to the fact that increase in added money brought in more contestants across the United States. The dates are June 19, 20 and 21. Plans for the 1987 C.N. Rodeo were underway July of 1986. Anyone interested in joining, we meet the first Monday of every month at the Red Carpet Inn.

—NOTICE—

Mason Indian Cultural Day

Mason Indian Culture Awareness Day. April 22, 23 & 24 at the Mason High School. Indian food, arts and crafts, medicine displays, and stompdance. The public is welcome at no admission.

EDITORIAL: BIA-Directed Policy Change at Haskell Without Merit!

Recently, I attended a press conference at Haskell Indian Junior College. The purpose of the press conference was to give people an opportunity to express their views on a proposed policy change at Haskell.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs under the direction of Ross Swimmer, proposes that our students at Haskell would have a great deal of self-satisfaction and pride in their education if they were required to pay a $850 tuition. Mr. Swimmer has also been quoted in the newspapers as saying Haskell has not met the educational needs of our students. I feel a response is in order to Mr. Swimmer on the proposal and his statement about Haskell not meeting the educational needs of the Indian people.

When I was ten years old I traveled with my aunt and uncle to Haskell to visit my brother and cousin. I can remember an air of excitement as we approached the campus. Even at that age, I knew there was something unique about this school. There were the stories that my father had shared with me about the exploits of some of the great athletes that attended Haskell.

I could envision those athletes as I was sitting in the stands at Haskell Stadium. My father also told me how if it weren't for Haskell he and many other Indians would probably not have attained some type of education. Of course, at that time the statement really didn't mean too much.

Ten years later I would return to Haskell as a student. At that time the school was making the transition to an accredited junior college. I remember how the atmosphere of the students, faculty and administration was one of excitement. The attitude of the students was positive in a manner that everyone knew that Haskell was truly unique. Everyone that was affiliated with the school were close to one another, like a big family. I've always maintained that unless you went to school at Haskell this feeling could never be described, a person would have to just been there. There were never any thoughts of Haskell ever changing, everyone knew that the United States government has a trust responsibility in providing programs and services of education to Indians and Alaskan natives. There are many students that finish school at Haskell and find it hard to leave the Lawrence area. Why? It could be because that Haskell has served as a mother and father to many of our Indian people for over a century. That's a century of our people receiving and meeting educational needs at Haskell, a century of our Indian people taking pride in the education they received at Haskell. Today, students at Haskell can be assured that a majority of the faculty have their Doctorate degree, in fact, the faculty at Haskell probably are more qualified than many other Junior colleges and four year schools.

In closing, as I told the students at Haskell, this proposal is without merit. This proposal was never presented to our tribal leaders for their viewpoint. Why wasn't it presented to them? Probably because many of leaders received an education at Haskell. Our leaders have done their part in helping this country in balancing the budget. They and their tribal members have suffered through the budget cuts. Supposedly, according to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, if the students at Haskell pay a tuition they can do so with other resources such as Pell grants and the like. If that's the case, only 50% of current enrollment at Haskell would qualify for other financial aid. BIA educational monies will suffer another cutback in the next fiscal year's budget. For each student to locate, secure and process $850.00 tuition to Haskell, means taking funds from other sources that help fund students in other two-year and four-year colleges and universities. This will, adversely affect Indian students. Currently, there is no way that Haskell's financial aid office could process the grants, scholarships, etc., in the time that has been allowed, should this policy be implemented in the fall of 87. Tuition at Haskell would mean that many of our tribes across the country would help even less the number of students that are seeking a higher education. Studies show that many of our students that go to Haskell come from high unemployment areas. The time has come to work together and confront this issue. It is a big issue, one that will have an effect on everybody. I challenge our Indian people to contact their congressional people and tell them that the proposed policy does not have any merit.

I think one of the students at Haskell said it best in discussing this policy. He said that "somebody's making a mistake out there. It's Ross Swimmer and that's not good." The Navajo Nation's representative ended the press conference by saying "we want to see our mothers or sisters shed tears no more."

George Tiger
Former Haskell student

SPECIAL SESSION-DECEMBER 11, 1986 NATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES

Invocation: Helen Chupco
Call to Order: Carney Roberts, Speaker, National Council Muscogee Nation. The Speaker advised that he had received a letter requesting a Special Session with the required percentage of signature, to be called to take legislative action on a Bill entitled "DHHS Discretionary Funds."
Roll Call: A quorum was declared with nineteen members present, and any and all business transacted during this session is to be considered valid and shall be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such. Roll call was as follows: Those present: Barnett, Bear, Bible, Buck, Buck, Childers, Chupco, Cleghorn, Roberts, Dunson, Foster, Fox, Johnson, Kamp, Larney, McIntosh, Miller, Stacy, Thomas, and Wilson. Those absent were: Clark, Dunn, Hale, Hardridge, Little, Primeaux, Wheeler and Williams.
ORDER OF BUSINESS:
A Bill 12-A Amending Tribal Ordinance NCA 86-26 Entitled "Providing Authorization for Tribal Contracts to Provide Services Program for FY-87" The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101 Tribal Ordinance NCA 86-26 is hereby amended at Section 153 (A) THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, (2) Department of Health and Human Services by adding the following program: DHHS Coordinated Discretionary Program. The Bill having been read, the chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Dunson to approve the Bill 12 (A) as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Chupco, Chairman advised that this Bill had been assigned to their committee with the Committee reviewing the proposal and holding discussion with the Staff Personnel, and that it was the recommendation of this Committee that it be presented with a "DO PASS". Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Eighteen in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, Bill 12—A was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.
ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by unanimous decision.

REGULAR SESSION NATIONAL COUNCIL MINUTES- December 20, 1986

INVOCATION: Helen Chupco
CALL TO ORDER: Carney Roberts, Speaker
ROLL CALL: A quorum was declared, with twenty-three members present, any and all business transacted during this session would be considered valid and would be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws. There were five members absent, they were: Bible, Robert Buck, Hardridge, and Williams.
READING OF MINUTES: September 27, 1986 Regular Scheduled meeting; October 25, 1986 Quarterly Session and November 27, 1986 Regular Session. The Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Stacy to approve the three sets of minutes as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty two in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried the minutes were approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Journal of the Creek Nation Code of Laws.
ORDER OF BUSINESS:
1. OLD BUSINESS —

A Veto message Returning NCA 86-65 with Objections. The Message was read and considered as follows: December 4, 1986, Message of the Principal Chief Returning NCA 86-65 to the National Council with Objections. As Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I, Claude A. Cox, hereby return NCA 86-65, entitled "Declaring Certain Actions of the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Null and Void" to the National Council with the following objections. OBJECTION: The Legislative Branch lacks the Constitutional Authority to Declare Actions of the Supreme Court Null and Void. The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation specifically requires a separation of powers in the tripartite government of this Nation. The role of each branch of government in the judicial process is addressed by the Constitution. Article VII, Section (1) states: "The judicial power of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be vested in one Supreme Court limited to matters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's jurisdiction. " Further, Section (5) of the article clearly mandates that "The decision of the Supreme Court shall be in writing and shall be final." In accordance with the Constitution, no other branch of this government has the authority to declare decision of the Supreme Court null and void. Therefore, NCA 86-65 is blatantly unconstitutional.
RECOMMENDATION: Since legislation which is unconstitutional cannot be implemented no furter action by the National Council is required. NCA 86-65 is hereby returned unsigned as a VETO by this Office. Signed/Claude A. Cox. The message having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Primeaux to over ride the VETO. Discussion was entertained and held. DISCUSSION FOR THE RECORD - Kamp stated that the Decision that the members of the National Council must make while considering NCA 86-65 is, "Shall we abide by provisions of the Constitution or not?" There is no doubt that the Constitution of the Muscogee Nation calls for a Supreme Court, just as it calls for a Principal Court, Second Chief, National Council, Citizenship Board and Election. This same Constitution also prescribes the number of persons that area required in each of these positions. The Constitution tells us that the Supreme Court shall be composed of six members. Any number less than six does not fulfill the requirements of the Constitution. The Constitution does not say that the Supreme Court shall be composed of five members or four members or any number other than six. Persons that have been nominated and confirmed to the Supreme Court could be considered to be members of the court that is in the process of being organized; but there are no constitutional provisions to recognize any actions taken or decisions rendered until the Constitutional provisions for a Supreme Court have been complied with. The Principal Chief's objection in this veto is, Article VII, Section (1) states: "The judicial power of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be vested in one Supreme Court limited to matters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's jurisdiction. Further, Section (5) of the Article clearly mandates that the "Decision of the Supreme Court shall be vested in the writing and shall be final". Your vote to over-ride this veto will be a veto to support our Constitution and will serve as a notice to the Executive Branch that this Council will insist that in the future all provisions of the Constitution shall be fulfilled. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twelve in favor, twelve against and no abstentions. Voting yes were: Barnett, Childers, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Kamp, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas and Wilson. Voting no were: Bear, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Roberts, Larney, Foster, Hale, Johnson, Little, Miller and Wheeler. Motion did not carry, as it did not receive the 2/3 majority vote as required. The Veto will stand.

MESSAGE RETURNING NCA 86-66
December 4, 1986, Message of the Principal Chief Returning NCA 86-66 to the National Council with Objections. I, Claude A. Cox, Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, do hereby return NCA 86-66 entitled "Repealing NCA 86-34, dated July 14, 1986" to the National Council with Ojections as follows: OBJECTION: The Legislation intending to remove a member of the Supreme Court violates Article VIII of the Constitution. The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation clearly deligates the authorities of the governmental branches in the confirmation process involving the selection of members so the Supreme Court. In addition, Article VII of the Constitution specifically addresses the minimum requirements for the removal of any member of the Supreme Court. Section (3) requires a petition containing twenty (20) percent of the registered voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and a three-fourths vote of the National Council. **RECOMMENDATION:** If it is the intent of individual members of the National Council to remove members of the Supreme Court, constitutional requirements for removal must be honored. Therefore, NCA 86-66 is hereby returned unsigned as a VETO by the Office of the Principal Chief. Signed Claude A. Cox, Principal Chief. The Message having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Primeaux to over-ride the Veto of NCA 86-66. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been made, a roll call voted was taken with the results being: Thirteen in Favor, eleven against and no abstentions. Those voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Kamp, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas and Wilson. Those voting no were: Buck, Chupco, Clark, Foster, Johnson, Larney, Roberts, Little, Miller, and Wheeler. Motion did not carry, veto will stand, as it did not receive the required 2/3 majority vote.

Veto Message Returning NCA 86-67 and NCA 86-68: NCA 86-67 Establishing the Absentee Creek Policy; NCA 86-68 Establishing the Tulsa Urban Act. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Kamp to strike these items from the Agenda, letting the VETO stand. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty three in favor, none against, no abstentions.MOTION CARRIED. Veto message NCA 86-67 and NCA 86-68 were stricken from the agenda letting the vetos stand.
The chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Jerry Wilson and seconded by Frank Kamp to amend the agenda by moving items (revised) BILL 12-G and BILL 12-H to the top of the agenda for consideration at this time prior to any other business on the agenda. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a toll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty in favor, three against, no abstentions- Barnett, yes; Bear, yes; Bible, absent; J. Buck, yes; R. Buck, absent; Childers, yes; Chupco, no; Clark, no; Cleghorn, yes; Dunn, yes; Dunson, yes; Foster, no; Fox, yes; Hale, yes; Hardridge, absent; Johnson, yes; Kamp, yes; Larney, yes; Little, yes, McIntosh, yes; Miller, yes,; Primeaux, yes; Stacy, yes, Thomas, yes; Wheeler, yes; Williams, absent; Wilson, yes. ***MOTION CARRIED.*** The agenda was amended with BILL 12-G and 12-H being read at this time.

NEW BUSINESS: A Bill 12-G of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing the Tulsa Urban Creek Act. Introduced by Jerry Wilson (revised version). Assigned to the Committee of the Whole. The BILL (12-G) was read and considered as follows: ***Section 101. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds that: A.*** There are over five-thousand Creek citizens living in the Tulsa District.***B.*** Creek citizens living in the urban area of Tulsa are not eligible for amny of the service programs operated by the Nation. **C.** Creek citizens living in the urban area of Tulsa are in need of immediate relief. ***Section 102. Purpose of Act.*** The purpose of this act is to provide social/economic services to Creek citizens living in the Tulsa District. The purpose of this ACT shall be met through the provison of financial assistance to Creek citizens living in the Tulsa District. ***Section 103. Authorization of Appropriation.*** There are authorized to be appropriated $100,000,00 for Fiscal Year 1987, from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bingo Account, to carry out provisions of this ACT. ***Section 104. Type of Assistance.*** The following types of assistance available under this ACT. A. The provisions of emergency assistance for food, shelter, utility and clothing provisions. ***B.*** The provisions of assistance for job seeking expenses. **C.** The provisions of emergency health care and medicines. **C.** The provisions of special assistance services. ***The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. (12-G) A motion was made by Jerry Wilson and seconded by Irene Cleghorn to approve the Bill 12-G.*** Discussion was entertained and held.
Amendment #1. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Primeaux to amend Bill 12-G at Section 103 by changing the $100,000.00 to 40,000.00. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty two in favor, one against, and no abstentions. Voting no was: Thomas. Motion carried. Amendent #1 was approved as read and shall be inserted in the final draft of Bill 12-G.
Amendment #2. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Kamp to amend Bill 12-G by changing the words, "Tulsa Urban Area" to Tulsa District"; this would serve as a catch-all area. Upon a motion to amend (amendment - 2) having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty two in favor, none against and one abstention, that being: ? Motion carried. Amendment #2 was approved as read and shall be recorded as such. **APPROVAL:** Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded for the approval of 12-G, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Fourteen in favor, nine against and no abstentions. Voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Clark, Cleghorn, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Kamp, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy and Wilson; Those voting no were: Buck, Chupco, Foster, Johnson, Larney, Miller, Thomas, and Wheeler. Motion Carried. Bill 12-G was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.
12-H A Bill Establishing the Absentee Creek Policy. Introduced by Wilson and assigned to the commitee of the Whole. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds that: A. That the Constitution implies that Creek Citizens should share equally inall rights and benefits entitled to Creek Citizens without restriction to residential status. B. That a certain percentage of Creek Citizens living outside the political boundaries of the Creek Nation and who do not have an easy assessibility to service program operated by the Tribe. C. There exists no clear service policy for Creeks living outside the Nation. **Section 103. DECLARATION OF POLICY.** The service policy of the Nation for Absentee Creeks shall include: A. A census and needs assessment of absentee Creeks shall be conducted by

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DECEMBER 20 MINUTES continued...

the Nation at a minimum once every five (5) years. B. The Nation shall advocate the development and funding of service programs for absentee Creeks in all areas of health, education, housing and social welfare. C. That the Nation will disseminate information services to absentee Creeks. D. That the Nation shall advocate the organization of absentee Creeks in other georgraphical areas and shall provide technical assistance to do so. The Bill 12-H having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Stacy to approve the Bill 12-H as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-two in favor, three against, no abstentions. Voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Buck, Childers, Cleghorn, Larney, Kamp, Johnson, Hale, Fox, Dunson, Dunn, Little, McIntosh, Miller, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas, Wheeler and Wilson. Voting no were: Chupco, Clark and Foster. Motion Carried, Bill 12-H was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.

Bill 12-B of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing and Appropriating a Service Program for the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Community. Introduced by: Request of the Principal Chief and assigned to the Committee on Community Services, Chairman Helen Chupco. Referred to the Committee on Business & Governmental Services for budgetary & finance review. Recommendation: Do Pass. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. The Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Community is a chartered community with the Tribal government. B. The community has, in the past, successfully operated service program for tribal members in the metropolitan area. C. Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, regardless of residence, are entitled to tribal services. D. The Community has prepared a proposal and detailed budget totaling $34,628 to provide the following services: 1. Rent Assistance. 2. Utility Assistance. 3. Vision Services. 4. Home Repairs. 5. Cultural Activities and Education. E. Revenues from the Creek Nation Bingo have seen sufficient to fund the requested proposal. **Section 102.** The National Council hereby authorizes the Principal Chief to grant $34,628 to the Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Community for the purposes outlined in the proposal. **Section 103** Upon expenditure of the appropriated funds, the community will provide the Principal Chief a final report of activities and financial information. The Bill 12-B having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Johnson and seconded by Johnson Buck to approve Bill 12-B as read. Discussion was entertained and held. **AMENDMENT #1. A motion was made by Dunson and seconded by Johnson Buck to amend Bill 12 at Section 105 by deleting item number five, and adding the money from this line item of the proposal to rent utilities and glasses. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Ten in favor, eleven against and one absention. Voting no were: Buck, Chupco, Clark, Larney, Johnson, Dunn, Hale, Miller, Primeaux, Thomas, and Wheeler. Voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Cleghorn, Foster, Dunson, Little, McIntosh, and Stacy, abstaining was Wilson. Motion did not carry, the amendment was not approved. Upon a motion having been made and seconded for the approval of 12-B a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Seventeen in favor, four against, one abstention. Voting against were: Dunn, Foster, Primeaux and Wheeler, abstaining was Cleghorn. Motion carried. Bill 12-B was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.**

12-C A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing and Approving an Attorney Contract with Sherrin Watkins. Introduced by: Request of the Principal Chief. Assigned to: The Committee on Business & Governmental Services. Recommendation: DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. The attorney contract between the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Sherrin Watkins, attached hereto, is hereby approved, and the Principal Chief is hereby authorized to execute the said contract. **Section 102.** The contract may be modified and revised by the Principal Chief with the approval of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Buck and seconded by Miller to approve the Bill 12-C as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: fourteen in favor, four agains and no abstention. Voting against were: Childers, Cleghorn, Dunn and McIntosh. Motion carried, Bill 12-C was approved as read and shall be recorded as such. *Secretary's note: eight members absent at this time. Those not voting were: Bible, Buck, Buck, Hardridge, Primeaux, Stacy, Kamp and Williams.

12-D A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation rescinding Tribal Ordinance NCA 26-16 which provides for the authorization to Purchase the Property and facilities for use by the Sapulpa Indian Community. Introduced by Leah J. Stacy, Chairman, the Committee on Business & Governmental Services. Was not assigned to be considered as a follow-up of NCA 86-16. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. Negotiations for the purchase of the property and facilities for the Sapulpa Indian Community were not completed. B. The authorization for expenditures of funds totaling $225.000 remains ear-marked for this purchase plus any cost of closing the transaction. C. The monies to be freed and re-deposited into the Docket 21/276 Capital Acquisition. **Section 102** The National Council hereby rescinds Tribal Ordinance, NCA 86-16. **Section 103** The $225,000 shall be re-deposited into the fund account Docket 21/276 Capital Acquisition. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Chupco and seconded by Little to approve the Bill as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Eighteen in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, Bill 12-D was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws.

12-E A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing and Appropriating Funds for the Eufaula Dormitory Purchases. Introduced by Dan Barnett. Assigned to the Committee on Human Development. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. The Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory is in need of appliances, furniture, carpets, equipment and other items necessary to continue the day to day operation of the Dormitory. B. There is a need for expense money for student participation in school related activities. C. The B.I.A. will no longer pay for these items from facilities and funds are not adequate from the Education portion of the contract to purchase these items. **Section 102.** The National Council hereby appropriates $51,530.48 from the 7151 Funds Account, on a one time basis. **Section 103.** The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to program and expend $51,530.48 from the 7151 Funds Account For the following line items: 1) Two commerical clothes dryers - 3,000.00 2) Furniture - 15,000.00 3) Carpets - 4,800.00 4) Play ground equipment - 8,730.00 5) Expense money-student participation - 20,000.00 Total Budget - 51,530.48. **Section 104** A financial and or status report on these purchases shall be made during the Quarterly Meetings, etc. The Bill having been read, the chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wheeler and seconded by Clark to approve Bill 12-E as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Eighteen in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried. Bill 12-E was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.

12-M A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Amending NCA 86-27 which authorized and appropriated Tribal funds for the Okmulgee Bingo Facility *Introduced by request of the Principal Chief, and assigned to the Committee* of the Whole. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. NCA 86-27 appropriated $301,157 to establish a bingo facility in Okmulgee. B. The Office of the Gaming Commission and Interim Management Committee have recommended improvements in the project which include the establishment of a smokeshop, enhanced parking and other changes to increase productivity and return on investment. **Section 012.** The National Council hereby amends NCA 86-27 at Section 101 increasing the appropriation from $301,157 as follows: Section 101 The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to administer and expend funds not to exceed $411,157 for the Okmulgee Bingo Facility Project. **Section 103.** All funds will continue to be appropriated form 7151 funds as provided in NCA 86-27 and early buy-out investments are authorized if needed. **Section 104.** All other provisions of NCA 76-27 remain unchanged. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion, a motion was made by Clark and seconded by Johnson to approve 12 M as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: eighteen in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, Bill 12 M was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

The Chair entertained a motion to add new items to the Agenda for Consideration. A motion was made by Chupco and seconded by Wheeler to add items 12-I, 12-J; 12-K and 12-L to the agenda for consideration at this time. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: eighteen in favor, none against, and no abstentions. Motion carried. The items will be added to the agenda under items for consideration. *A motion was made by Clark and seconded by* Foster to cut the discussion down to three to five minutes per Bill. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: fourteen in favor, four against, no abstentions. Those voting no were: Childers, Hale, Little and Cleghorn. Motion carried. Discussion on each Bill will be limited to 3 to 5 minutes.

12-I A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the Revenue Sharing Budget for Fiscal Year 1987. Introduced by Request of the Principal Chief, assigned to the committee on Business and Governmental Services. Recommendation: DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. The Revenue Sharing Budget for Fiscal year 1987 is hereby authorized and appropriated to be expened as follows: NATIONAL COUNCIL — $59,239.00; CREEK NATION INDIAN RIDING CLUB — $3,000.00; CREEK NATION REALTY ADMINISTRATION — $89,050.00; TOTAL REVENUE SHARING BUDGET — $151,289.00 **Section 102.** Total appropriations in this Ordinance may not be modified or changed except by Ordinance. **Section 103.** Appropriations are effective through September 30, 1987. **Section 104.** Any interest accruing to the account may be included and expended in the line item entitle "Repair and Mainenance on Tribal Facilities". The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Dunson and seconded by Bear to approve the Bill 12-I as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: seventeen in favor, one against and no abstentions; voting no was - McIntosh. Motion carried, Bill 12-I was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws.

12-J A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Principal Chief to Negotiate and Execute an Attorney Contract with Stephen Foster. Introduced by request of the Principal Chief and assigned to the Committee on Business and Governmental Services. Recommendation: Do Pass. Section 101 FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation does not currently have a staff attorney to serve as a tribal legal counsel. B. The Gaming Commissioner presently has several pending cases pending before the tribal courts. C. Stephen Foster, a tribal citizen, is a qualified attorney living within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. **Section 102.** The Principal Chief is authorized to negotiate and execute an attorney contract with Mr. Foster for the purpose of representing the interests of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation through the Office of the Gaming Commission. **Section 103.** The contract shall be at the rate of $90 per hour, not to exceed $7,200 and payable from the FY 87 Tribal Budget, Attorney Fees and Expense, Activity # 100-8752-63-440-00-5456. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Bear to approve Bill 12-J as read. Upon a motion having been made, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twelve in favor, six against and no abstentions. Voting yes were: Bear, Dunson, Foster, Little, Miller, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Hale, Johnson, Larney, and Wheeler; voting no were: Barnett, Dunn, McIntosh, Fox, Cleghorn, and Thomas. Motion carried Bil 12-J was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

12-K A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Amending NCA 86-22 and NCA 86-23 to Authorize the Principal Chief to Modify Attorney Contract to Increase the

(MINUTES continued on page 12)

DECEMBER 20 MINUTES continued...

Compensation. Introduced by Request of the Principal Chief, assigned to the Committee on Business and Government Services. Recommendation: Do Pass. Section 101. FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has contracted with John Echols, Esq., under NCA 86-22, to provide legal services regarding the Creek Nation Bingo litigation. B. Under NCA 86-23 the Muscogee (Creek) Nation also acquired the services of Geoffery Standing Bear, P.C. for the litigation. C. The Principal Chief has executed two contracts with the attorneys at a ceiling rate of $35,000 for each contract. D. There is a need to modify each contract to increase the ceiling rate by $10,000 to $45,000. **Section 103.** NCA 86-22 and NCA 86-23 are hereby amended to authorize the Principal Chief to modify both attorney contracts to increase the ceiling by $10,000 each to total $45,000 per contract. **Section 103** All other provisions remain unchanged. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Bear to approve Bill 12-K as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: ten in favor, three against and one abstention. Voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Larney, Foster, Hale, Miller and Wheeler. Voting no were: Dunson, Fox, and McIntosh, abstaining was - Little. Motion carried, Bill 12-K was approved as read and shall be recorded into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.

12-L A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing A Production Agreement with Phil Lucas Production, INC. Introduced by: Request of the Principal Chief and assigned to the Committee on Tribal Affairs. Recommendation DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101 FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. Preliminary development of a motion picture has been funded by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation during the 1984, 1985 and 1986 fiscal year. B. The project is now ready for production at no further costs to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. C. The production of the motion picture will ultimately provide income for the tribal government. D. Phil Lucas Production, Inc., has successfully completed the development stages of the project and possesses the expertise to complete the production phase. **Section 102.** The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to execute a production agreement between Phil Lucas Production, Inc., and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Bill having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wheeler and seconded by Chupco to approve the Bill 12-L as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: fourteen in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, Bill 12-L was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The Second Speaker, on behalf of the National Council, read an "Award of Recognition" which was to be presented to James Floyd, an ex-employee of the Creek Nation. The award read: Awarded this 20th day of December, 1986 to James Floyd, in recognition of your hard work, and dedication towards the success of our Tribal Government; and for your dedication towards your career in IHS, not only to our tribal government, but to all areas of Indian Health Services. **Announcements: Adjournment:** A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Chupco to adjourn. By a unanimous decision the meeting adjourned.

SPECIAL SESSION - MINUTES

JANUARY 15, 1987

CALL TO ORDER: Carney Roberts. The Speaker advised that he had received a letter requesting the required percentage of signatures to conduct a Special Session with the agenda being set to take legislative action on the "Indian Child Welfare Program".

ROLL CALL: A quorum was declared with twenty members present; eight absent, with the Speaker declaring that any and all business transacted during this session to be vaild and entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such. The roll call was as follows: Those present were: Barnett, Buck, Buck, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Cleghorn, Roberts, Foster, Fox, Hale, Hardridge, Johnson, Kamp, Larney, McIntosh, Miler, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas, and Wilson. Those absent were: Bear, Bible, Dunn, Dunson, Little, Primeaux, Wheeler and Williams.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1-A A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Amending the Tribal Contracting Ordinance NCA 86-26 by Adding the "Indian Child Welfare Program". The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Community Services. The Bill was given a recommendation of DO PASS. This Bill was referred to the Committee on Business & Governmental Services, with this Committee giving a Recommendation of a DO PASS. **Section 101. FINDINGS:** The National Council finds that there exists a need to add the Indian Child Welfare Program to the Tribal Contracting Ordinance for the purpose of entering the Courts on behalf of the Tribal Citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. **Section 102.** The National Council hereby amends the Tribal Contracting Ordinance NCA 86-26 at Section 153 A (1) by adding the following program entitled: "Indian Child Welfare Program". **Section 103.** This program is contingent upon the approval by the BIA contracting officer and the budget may be modified in compliance with the contract grant award. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Stacy to approve the Bill as read. Question was called. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: eighteen in favor, one against and no abstentions. Voting against was Kamp. Motion carried. BILL 1A The Indian Child Welfare Program was approved as read and shall be recorded as such into the Creek Nation Code of Laws.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Childers to amend the Agenda by placing Bill 1B in its revised version on the agenda for consideration during this session. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken as follows: Twelve in favor, Seven against and no abstentions. Those voting yes were: Barnett, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Cleghorn, Foster, Hale, Fox, Hardridge, Kamp, McIntosh, Stacy and Wilson. Those voting no were: Buck, Buck, Johnson, Larney, Miller and Thomas. Motion carried BIll 1B Tulsa Urban Creek Act will be added to the Agenda for consideration.

1-B A Bill establishing the Tulsa Urban Creek Act, was read and considered as follows: Section 101. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council finds: A. That there are over five thousand Creek citizens living in the Tulsa district. B. That Creek Citizens living in the urban area of Tulsa are not eligible for many of the service programs operated by the Nation. C. That Creek Citizens living in the urban area of Tulsa are in need of immediate relief. **Section 102 PURPOSE OF ACT.** The purpose of this act is to provide social/economic services to Creek Citizens living in the Tulsa Urban Area. The purpose of this act shall be met through the provision of financial assistance to Creek Citizens living in the Tulsa Urban Area. **Section 103 AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION** There are authorized to be appropriated $40,000.00 for fiscal year 1987, from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Bingo Account, to carry out provisions of this act. **Section 104. TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.** The following are types of assistance available under this act. A. The provision of emergency assistance for food, shelter, utility, and clothing expense. B. The provision of assistance for job seeking expenses. C. The provision of emergency health care and medicines. D. The provision of education and training assistance. E. The provision of home rehabilitation. F. The provision of special assistance services. **Section 105.** The delivery of services and the establishment of program guidelines is hereby assigned to the Executive Branch, Office of Administration, Division of Community services. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Stacy to approve the Bill 1-B as read. Question was called. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Ten in favor, nine against and no abstentions. Voting yes were: Barnett, Childers, Clark, Cleghorn, Foster, Fox, Kamp, McIntosh, Stacy and Wilson. Voting no were: Buck, Buck, Chupco, Hale, Hardridge, Johnson, Larney, Miller, and Thomas. Motion carried Bill 1B was approved as read and shall be recorded into the Creek Nation Code of Laws. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Stacy and seconded by Kamp to adjourn. By a unanimous decision, the meeting was adjourned.

Preaching the Gospel to the American Indians

Evangelist Ernest Best

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who made of Himself no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant."
-Philippians 2:5,7

"He (Jesus) riseth from supper and laid aside His garments; and took a towel, and girded Himself. . .and began to wash the disciples' feet. . ."If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet."
-John 13:4,5,14

Most of us would like for the Lord to be able to use us in some great way. We would like to be "Super Saints" for Him. But, as one man said, life is so daily. Life is made up of the mundane . . . boring, insignificant things. If we aren't careful we will spend our lives looking for something great to do in the future and overlook what the Lord really wants us to do. . .be a servant to those around us, now. Being ready to be of help where it's needed. . .running errands, visiting the sick and widows, encouraging the young, and the old, smiling and stopping to chat for a moment, cleaning the church, helping in the nursery. Those are not all pleasant jobs, and there isn't much recognition given for those jobs. The Lord said, "He that is greatest among you, let him be a servant." As I watch those silent servants, my heart rejoices. They are like those huge, hidden engines in the depths of a ship. The ship couldn't sail without them. When we see a clean, well functioning church, or home, there are those silent servants going about their business for the glory of God.

Every New Years Eve since I've been a Christian has been spent in church singing, praying and preaching the New Year in. That is, until this last one. I was on the road, driving the moving van, helping Brother Gary Hawkins and his family get moved to Browning, Montana. We arrived at Browning on New Years' Day and I flew home two days later.

During the rest of January, I have preached Sundays and Wednesdays in churches in our area. I had one week-end meeting in Tulsa. I was happy to have some of my children, my sister and a niece attend that meeting. I also attended Brother Jack Wood's camp meeting in Houston, and was ministered to by some great preaching there. At present, I am preparing studies which I will be teaching when I go back to the reservations, which will be in a couple of weeks.

Bennie has been working in our local church, by starting a young adults Bible study group to try to reach and teach the young adults of our area. She is also working with a youth group in our church and has taught on ladies' Bible study.

Please pray for both of us as we study and work that we might be used effectually by the Lord. There is not only a great need to reach our Indian people with the gospel but to teach them the word of God that they might be grounded in the faith and receive a love for the word of God.

We wrote you a few months back about the need of a van by one of our Indian churches on the reservation. The Lord has provided a 1980 Dodge maxi van and it is on the field right now in Wisconsin. We need to raise $1,965 to take care of the balance of the van. If you feel the Lord would have you help with this, we would sure appreciate it. You may send your gift marked,"van." We thank you in advance for your participation in this mission project.

We ask you to pray with us concerning the year ahead, that the Lord would give a greater harvest than ever. We sincerly thank you for your prayers and your faithful support of this ministry to the lost among the Native Americans of North America. May the Lord bless you and use you as you serve Him in your field of service.

Your Missionaries to the North American Indians,
BROTHER ERNEST & BENNIE BEST, P.O. Box 31, Eufaula OK 74432- 918/689-7880

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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 4 April 1987 Issue 16 Pages

Indians Concerned About MMS Recoupment Plan

By Helen Chalakee

Multi-million dollar issues of concern to Indian mineral owners have surfaced recently due to activities from the Department of the Interior Mineral Management Service (MMS).

MMS is the Department of Interior agency responsible for handling Indian royalty accounts and are asking for repayment of as much as $100 million (according to Oilgram News, 1-14-87) from on shore federal and Indian land royalties. They claim this was an overpayment on natural gas royalties and will try to recoup for the gas companies.

MMS is proposing Indian gas royalty holders should pay back for the difference between the federal ceiling price which companies were required to pay Indian mineral owners and the actual market price since May 1982.

This would involve change to "Notice to Lessees 5 (NTL-5) which governs the value for royalty purposes of natural gas on Indian land. A maximum lawful ceiling price was generally used to value natural gas for royalty computations. MMS says, "Actual market price began to fall below ceiling prices as early as 1982 for some categories."

By January 1985 most market prices were $3.00 or less per thousand cubic feet, while ceiling prices ranged up to $5.90. By July, 1985, market prices were $2.50 per thousand cubic feet, while ceiling prices exceeded $6.00. MMS claims the companies were required to pay more than double the normal amount of royalty.

MMS now proposes the funds be recouped equally over a 12-month period so as to minimize any hardship, subject to the existing limitation that such recoupment for individual alloted Indian leases cannot exceed 50 percent of a current month's liability.

If the recoupment becomes reality, it will be devastating to the elderly Indians who living within a fixed income and rely upon their royalties as part of that income. With the declining gas price which will automatically lower their royalty, and the added burden of repaying these inferred overpayments, an undetermined hardship and insurmountable grief will be put on our elders.

Muskogee Area BIA Director Joe Parker issued a memorandum dated 3-23-87 to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Trust and Economic Development stating the concern of the Indian mineral owners is "Who is MMS serving, the oil industry or the Indian propery owner?"

The contents of Parker's letter reads: "Imposing of regulations that sets a value of the natural resources of individual property owners for whom the Bureau of Indian Affairs is obligated, by enactment of Congress, to exercise a responsibility of trust literally dissolves any concept of the meaning of the word "exercise."

Rectifying past instances of inflated royalty charges by implementing a retroactive change obliterates any effort on the part of the Indian mineral owner to take advantage of the market at a given time."

Parker went on to say, "To retroactively impose change should certainly be a major issue. If comments have to be called for to determine the degree of impact on Indian property owners as a result of recoupment of natural gas royalties back to May 1, 1982 then the seriousness of the proposal has not been considered with any emphasis on those Indian people to whom we have a responsibility of trust."

In speaking of proposed hearings set by MMS, the BIA Area Director said, "We call your attention to the schedule of public hearings that have been set for places in Colorado, Louisiana and Texas and the fact that none of the hearing sites have been scheduled in places whereby impacted individual Indian people would have an opportunity to be publicly heard.

We are requesting that, if adequate consideration has not yet been given as to the impact the proposed regulations will have on Indian property owners, a more appropriate hearing schedule that would include sites more accessible to individual Indian people and tribes, be arranged."

Both Parker and Jack Channey, also with the Muskogee Area BIA, said they are working on trying to get MMS to hold hearings in Muskogee, Tulsa and pertinent locations for the Five Tribes, but at the present time no definite dates or locations are scheduled. They agreed the necessity for local mineral owners to be able to attend the hearings and have the opportunity to respond to the MMS proposal. They also agreed the hearing dates, when set, should be published in the Indian newspapers - so stay tuned for further information.

Another mega money concern directed to MMS is the delay from the time oil and gas is purchased by the companies and a deposit is made into IIM accounts. According to Parker, MMS operates under an administrative policy that allows companies to withhold payment and reports until before the 30th day after sales production. This allows the companies use of Indian oil and gas free for 29 days without paying a red cent of interest to the royalty holders.

Then, from the first 29 day delay, comes another delay of 15 to 30 days until MMS makes the deposit transactions into IIM accounts. In all, it could be up to 60 days before the individual royalty holders can withdraw their accounts and again they are not receiving interest for the use of their money during this time.

(MMS Continued Page 3)

Rhonda Harjo Crowned 1987-88 Creek Nation Princess

By Kathryn Bell

Rhonda Harjo, a 21-year old Junior at Central State University, was crowned the 1987-88 Creek Nation Princess in the Annual Creek Nation Pageant held at the Mound Building at the Complex in Okmulgee at 7:00 p.m., April 11.

Ms. Harjo, daughter of Amon and Sylvia Harjo of Washita, was among the six contestants vying for the title of Princess. Among them; Konya Sue Foreman,Tulsa who received the honor of First Runner-Up; Sandra Louise Lewis, Muskogee, who was the Second Runner-Up; Joanna Marie Wacoche, Eufaula; Robyn Kay Whitecloud, Preston and Jonlea Willie of Morris.

The Creek Nation Princess received a $500 scholarship from the Office of the Principal Chief and a gift of $300 for a total of $800 in scholarship money. The First Runner-Up received $200 and the Second Runner-Up received $100. All contestants received consolation gifts.

Judges for the Pageant were; Dr. Ruth Arrington, who also acted as the Master of Ceremonies and who is a Professor at Northeastern University at Tahlequah, Hugh Ed Johnson, Director of Indian programs for HUD, Woody Kenny, Service Unit Director at Shawnee, Perry Beaver, Second Chief of the Creek Nation and Jenks football coach, Ron West, Director of Indian Education and Teresa Shoemaker, Miss Indian Oklahoma.

The Princess Pageant Committee this year, headed by Steve Wilson of Creek Nation included; Rachel Thomas, Anita Tecumseh, Patricia Morgan, Jerrie On-The-Hill, Chiquita Juneau, Jimmy Jones, Kathy (Brown) Polen, Steve Landsberry and J. Bunny Hill. The Creek Nation Festival Gift Shop provided the beaded crown and banner for the Princess.

The Pageant Program opened with an Introduction by Steve Wilson, and Invocation by Anthony Hale, Okmulgee District Representative to the National Council. Following the Invocation, Principal Chief Claude Cox gave the Welcome and Dr. Ruth Arrington introduced the judges for the evening event, as well as the Introduction of the contestants.

The Talent Presentation was given next with Rhonda Harjo performing a skit that she had written as well as singing and playing the piano. First Runner-Up Konya Foreman sang "God Bless the USA." Second Runner-Up Sandra Lewis performed a traditional Creek song on an Indian flute that she had made. Other talent performed included; Jonlea Willie performed "Star Spangled Banner" on a baritone; Robyn Kay Whitecloud did a speech on drug and alcohol abuse; Joanna Wacoche, a student at the Eufaula Dormitory, gave a presentation on the value of education.

The contestants then presented their traditional dress, explained by Dr. Arrington. Entertainment was provided by the Okmulgee Elementary JOM students in a program coordinated and presented by Pat Wilson and Glenda Sullivan, teachers involved with the program, which involved modeling of the traditional clothing, and singing.

THe 1986-87 Creek Nation Princess Melinda Taryole gave a triumphant Last Walk as well as a spirited address to the Creek people, specifically to the elders, on the importance of continuing the proud heritage of the Muscogee people.

Following were the Crowning of the Princess by Chief Cox and the outgoing Princess Taryole. The Runners-Up were presented as well. Lilly Cox gave the Benediction at the end of the program.

The newly-crowned Princess is half Creek and her grandparents are Dave

(PRINCESS continued on Page 7)

MEMORIAL EVE GOSPEL SINGING

An all night Gospel singing is scheduled for May 24, 1987 beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church. The church is located one mile south on highway 75 and one half mile east.

Master of Ceremonies will be Eastman Factor of Bethany, Ok. Everyone is invited!

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a montly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $6.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements. Address: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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—NOTICE—

How To Become An Enrolled Member of the Creek Tribe

To become enrolled with the Creek Tribe, the following steps are involved in the application process, according to the Creek Nation Citizenship Board:

1. You must provide evidence of Creek blood by: a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), verfied by issuing agency; unbroken chain of birth certificates; court-approved heirship decree or a combination of the above.

2. Make application for enrollment which includes ancestry information with the CN Citizenship Board located at the Creek Nation Complex, telephone 1-918-756-8700 ex 224 or write; Citizenship Board at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447.

The Citizenship Board stated that it usually takes two to three weeks to receive a Creek Citizenship Card.

Mother's Day Gospel Singing Set for May

Buckeye Indian Baptist Church will start services at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 3. The Mothers Day Sermon by, Rev. Lewis Harjo starts at 11:00 a.m. Dinner on the ground at 12:00 noon.

The oldest mother and grandmother coming the longest distance will be honored.

There will be singing all afternoon from 1 p.m to 5:30 p.m. All singers and public are welcome. That evening supper will be served.

Directions to the church are 3 1/2 miles north of Castle, Okla on Hwy. 48 to IXL turn east at Buckeye Church sign 2 miles.

ALEXANDER POSEY POETRY CONTEST

ELIGIBILITY

Creek students, grades 4 through 12, who are enrolled in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are eligible to enter this contest. Applicants may also reside outside the Creek Nation boundaries.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION

No more than two poems from each student. Must be very neatly printed or typed. Student name, address, school, and grade must be included on upper right hand corner. We are looking for original, creative work, and strongly encourage no use of patterned rhyming.

PRIZES

There will be six prizes awarded during the Creek Festival '87 in the following divisions: 4th through 6th grades, 7th through 9th grades, and 10th through 12th grades. Each winner will be awarded a cash prize and a certificate. There are three in each category: 1st Prize-$25; 2nd Prize-$15; and 3rd Prize-$10.

DEADLINE

1. Entries must be post marked no later than Monday, June 1, 1987.
2. Attach photocopy of Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship card.
3. Mail to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Communication Dept. Poetry Contest, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447.

—NOTICE—

The Creek Nation Housing Authority has listed four vehicles for sale and will be accepting bids in money orders or cashier check payable to the Creek Nation Housing Authority. The vehicles are as described and will be on display at the Housing Authority located at the Creek Nation Complex in Okmulgee.

1974 White Ford Pickup
1978 Red Ford Pickup
1979 Black Chevrolet Pickup
1979 Blue/White Chevrolet Pickup

For more information contact David McKinney at the CN Housing Authority, 918-756-8504. Name, address and phone number should be attached to bid.

ALL INDIAN MEN & WOMEN BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

MEKUSUKEY MISSION
May 7-8-9-10
$60 Entry Fee - Deadline May 1
For More Information Contact:
Louis Fife (405) 382-9822
Reo Miller (405) 257-6645
Jess Johnson (405) 257-6637

Dear Creek Nation News,

My main concern is due to the work which was done on my roof located at 6506 S. 42 W. Ave., in Tulsa. A statement was printed in the MUSKOGEE PHOENIX NEWS, February 22 issue using the word "children."

Due to my age being 62 years of age, I very much respect and look at younger people as being kids, however, this statement was not used or intended in any form to be used as a slanderous remark.

My apology is to the public, and the young people employed with the Creek Nation.

Henry Washburn

Letter to the Editor:

When I read the letter downing Martin Luther King Day I had to set the record straight because it sounded like it was sent in by an uniformed fool, someone who gladly put Black people down and gladly observe holidays honoring any white man. I happen to be BLACK AND MUSCOGEE CREEK AND FILIPINO while I for one would appreciate a day honoring a great CHIEF (and there were many) I think it was in bad taste downing Martin Luther King because he was black and lucky enough to be the first non white so honored. He not only lead Black people, he fought for any underdog regardless of skin color, he was for ALL PEOPLE so get your facts straight before you shoot your mouth off, do you observe 4th of July, Washington and Lincoln days, Thanksgiving and especially Columbus day? you probably do. So you should like Black Stevie Wonder and a lot of white stars (fight for a Native Chief Day, begin with talking with a great Native Star, Will Sampson or Iron Eyes Cody) I'll gladly help but stop putting down Martin, this is the 1st time America has honored anyone who was not white, help America go forward, next honored could be a Native American Oriental American, Hispanic American or any race, that is what America is supposed to represent.

Insulted,

Mrs. Ligaya Littledeer-Cook

Tulsa Tribune Editorial Calls Native American Hair Issue Johnny-come-lately Religion

By Helen Chalakee

For the past several years, both the Tulsa World and the Tulsa Tribune have become extremely opinionated over every Indian issue they can avail themselves to.

Who knows who writes these editorials- they are never signed. My guess would be one of the editorial page editors. It would be interesting to know what nationality these editors are who never miss the opportunity to demean and criticize every aspect of anything having to do with Indians.

In a state where it can be safely assumed that approximately 75 percent of its population carries Indian descendancy to some degree, these guys certainly have an abundance of nerve power. What gives them the right to attack, judge and misrepresent in such an offensive manner.

Better yet, WHO allows them this discretionary behavior. WE DO, if we do not start defending the idiotic inferences they are planting on us.

When these degrading editorials are printed, I would like to see Indian people issue red-hot informative responses to the papers- make them eat what they suppose are intellectual opinions of a people they know (or care to know) nothing about. No other race is so carefully scrutinized as the Indian people. For GOD'S SAKE, give us a break!

If you don't like their editorials, you can respond with a 'Letter to the Editor' written in an informative fashion to counteract what they are writing. The Tulsa Tribune address is P.O. Box 1770, Tulsa OK 74102. The Tribune editorial editors are: Editorial pages editor, John A Drummond; Associate editor, Jim Sellers; and Associate editor, Marilyn Duck.

The address of the Tulsa World is the same as the Tribune; its Editorial page editor is Alex Adwan.

This is the latest editorial from the Tribune dated March 23, 1987:

JAILHOUSE RELIGION

The complaint by a 27-year old Choctaw Indian against Oklahoma State Penitentiary that short hair grooming rules are against his religion is countered by testimony by OSP Warden Gary Maynard that long hair can conceal contraband and has been occasionally used by prison murders to force a head back for easier throat-cutting.

It would be interesting to learn how much inmates who complain of prison rules on religious grounds were involved in religious activity while they were compiling criminal records that landed them behind bars. . .Many Indians make superior soldiers, but long-haired Indian Marines, for example, are hard to find. It may be argued that in these cases compliance with strict military grooming is voluntary, while prisoners are given no option to resign and go home. But the inventive imaginations of jailhouse lawyers could be counted on to come up with religious strictures against any onerous prison rules.

Johnny-come-lately religious fervor among prison inmates lends itself to considerable doubt.

—NOTICE—

This notice is to inform the Indian Community that:

Roberts Feed & Tack
1300 West 4th
Okmulgee, OK 74447
1-918-758-0474

is still in operation and doing business at this location, to supply our customers with everything they need in the way of feed and tack. We thank you and appreciate your business.

Robert's Feed and Tack

Creek Poet Louis Oliver Receives Inaugural Alexander Posey Award

By Helen Chalakee

LOUIS (LITTLECOON) OLIVER, 83 YEAR-OLD CREEK POET/WRITER, IS THE RECIPIENT OF THE INAUGURAL 'ALEXANDER POSEY LITERARY AWARD'. The award was presented to him from the Este Mvskoke Arts Council for his literary contributions to the preservation of the Mvskoke culture. Helen Chalakee, co-director of the Council with Joy Harjo, made the presentation to Oliver during the noon luncheon April 3 at the Symposium of the American Indian at NSU, Tahlequah. Harjo, a nationally recognized Creek poet and writer is an Associate Professor of Literature at the University of Colorado, and Chalakee, Creek Nation Communication Director and journalist, formed the Este Mvskoke Arts Council in 1986 to promote contemporary Creek artists.

The Este Mvskoke Arts Council was formed last year by Joy Harjo and Helen Chalakee to promote the preservation of Muscogee culture and the development of new concepts of our culture through the contemporary art forms of the Muscogee people.

They chose Louis Oliver, an 83 year old Creek poet and writer of essays to receive the first Alexander Posey Literary Award. Oliver had attended one of Harjo's writing workshops and since that time she has kept in close contact with him and his work.

As depicted on the back cover of one of his collections "Caught in a Willow Net", Louis Oliver describes himself as "an old Indian of the Muskocee tribe" and "a wanderer-a nomad in a white man's jungle." But Louis Oliver is much more than that. He writes with honesty, power and a voice all his own.

In his 1985 published Creek and English bilingual text, simply called "Creek Writings" tells of his life in true Muscogee fashion:

WHO AM I

You are of the Muscogee (Creek) and of the forty towns in the state of Oklahoma, I extend to you my hand to shake yours.

I was reared by my grandmother and my aunt. A part of the time with one in Coweta, Oklahoma, and part time in Okfuskee, Oklahoma. In the year 1904, the last chief to reign over the house of the Tuskegees was one Nokose Harjo. They also tell me that we were closely related to the Great Heneha and that I belonged to the Racoon Clan.

My grandmother said that the Usseylarnes had joined Chief Hopothle Yahola and became of one fire and that my people had pitched a camp near them. She also told me there were many clans in her time and she named them in this order: Bear, Tiger, Wind, Deer, Bird, Fox, Racoon, Beaver, Aligator, Ahalaga, Mink, Snake, Buzzard, Skunk and Rabbit. But why only seven of the clans are known today is lost and forgotten.

Many things they told me which would have been of importance to me, I have forgotten. They and others stressed the need for an education and that I must try hard to learn.

By much coaxing and threats with a hickory whip, I did eventually attend school and graduated high school. I though that I had accomplished much and I expected praise and honor from my people, but that was not to be. I was accused of capitulating to the White Man's ways and because of my refinement in character, I was not looked upon as being real Indian, so I caused much consternation.

As I think back to the days of my youth and under the circumstances we lived, we wanted for very little, being healthy and happy. Now, that my old ones have passed away, I have a deep felt sorrow for them.

I live in the Cherokee town of Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

Like the waters that have flown under the bridge; so have the years of my life drifted down stream. From dragging my walkingstick, it has become shorter, and my eyesight is dim and I see things as in the dusk of evening. Nevertheless, I fast and gather cedar then climb the mountain to burn the cedar and meditate.

An old Cherokee man told me about that mountain. He said there are "little people" who live there and though I may not see them, they will tell you and show you many things.

So I sat and leaned against a large burroak tree. At first I felt drowsy and seemed to dream, but I heard these words: "For all people there is a day set for them to die, and too a day is set for the earth to die also. We cannot reveal to you those set days." The voice continued: "Fire is the beginning and the ending of all things---think on this. If one applies fire to a stick of wood, would that not be its beginning? As it burns it turns to coal and then to ashes and the wind scatters it to nothingness, would that not be the end of the wood? "These things we tell you have much weight; so, throw it over your shoulder and take it with you."

They showed me much that out of fear, I not dare to reveal them.

I was born on April 9, 1904. At that time this land had been declared Indian Territory and solely belonging to the Indians who lived under their government and their Laws. It was not long until the United States government declared this territory as a state, the State of Oklahoma, thereby removing our laws and making our people subject to theirs.

When this happened, our way of life and our "one fire" relationship deteriorated and scattered the people.

TIMES OF TENSION

My old ones of the forty towns lived in this manner in the old country. I mention only a few of the towns.

Those who lived by the Alabama River were: Thlapthlako, Kancharty, Koasate. And by its fork the Koosa; Taleteka, Helape, Tokpafka, Wewoka and Tuskegee. On the Talepoosa River: Lochapoka, Nuyaka, Okfuskee, Eufaula, and Tokepatchee. On the Chattahooca River: Broken Arrow, Coweta, Cheyaha, Hitchiti and Kasetta. On its fork: Pachelika and Okmulgee.

How the officials of their court were seated and in what manner their laws were instituted and enforced, I do not know. I presume though that the chief and the Heneha had their respective seat and so did the Tustenukes or the Warriors. You who are my elders would know.

Once, in those days, the Muskogee or Creek Confederacy had attained much power that they had drawn the other tribes to join them; such as the Cherokees, Choctaws, Euchees and Chickasaws, I was told.

At that time, there was much tension because there was a wave of White encroachers from the east, like swarms of locusts eating away the timber and taking the land.

The Creek Prophets had warned this people and the various chiefs of towns to think on this and take action.

MMS continued from Page 1...

Where is the money during this transaction period? Huge amounts of interest should be accumulated that should rightfully belong to the royalty holders. It seems MMS would want to get this money distributed to those it belongs to, rather than penalize them for the sake of the oil companies. Parker stated that when MMS took over the financial accounting for Indian royalty holders in October, 1982, a receipt was not shown until April 1983.

Parker said he had made a request to Assistant Secretary Swimmer that would eliminate the MMS transaction period and have all the accounts put on direct-pay. This way, he says, the companies will make direct transactions to Indian roylaty holders eliminating the MMS transaction stall.

According to Parker, some Indians are already on direct-pay and have been for some time; however, when MMS took over the financial accountability procedure they stopped the direct-pay process and since that time no new direct-pays have been processed. He said he hopes his request will be set up in the Muskogee Area as a pilot program.

Ex-BIA officials and attorneys who have had previous dealings with MMS are skeptical about the direct-pay idea because they say it would release both the BIA and MMS from the responsibility of making sure the Indian mineral owners receive fair treatment from the private sector.

Assuming there is a great deal of interest owed to the royalty holders, it seems irresponsible of MMS to make such an all out effort to recoup for the private companies when it appears big bucks are owed to the Indians.

Muskogee Indian Community News...

By Turner Harjo

The Muskogee Indian Community held their monthly meeting, March 2, 1987. The president called the meeting to order. Invocation was given by Lee Chupco. The minutes of last's month meeting were read; corrected, motion made, seconded and approved.

The Treasurer made her report. The report was read, no correction, motion made, seconded and approved.

The President made an executive committee report. He reported community money raised by the community had been donated in the sum of $50 to a community member for emergency financial assistance.

The President reported on money in the Community Development Block grant and suggested a purchase of, VCR, TV and six tapes for the Community center. Motion made, seconded and approved. New Business: The community will host its first Annual Wild Onion dinner, which was March 20, 1987. Motion made for adjournment; motion made and seconded.

Dear Creek Nation News,

I would like to thank everyone responsible for the nice things they have done for me in my home since my handicap and illness. To Mr.Townsend, Mr. Zeigler and son Donny the plumber you must be commended for all your work. I really appreciate all these things because now, I am able to carry on in my home and do things more easily. I thank you and my family thanks you.

Mrytle "Bob" Brown and family

CREEK & CHEROKEE SINGING

A singing will be held on April 17, at the Vann Church, located 4 miles south of Stilwell on highway 59. The singing will begin at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited, refreshments will be served.

Birth Announcement...

SARA CATHERINE HANSEN

Steve and Stephanie (Whinery) Hansen of Ventura, California wish to announce the birth of their daughter, Sara Catherine, born March 7, 1987 at 10:38 p.m. She weighed 8 pounds and 15 ounces.

The proud grandparents are; Don and Lucy Hansen of Salt Lake City, Utah and Phil and Sara Whinery of Kellyville.

Will Sampson Awaits Organ Transplants

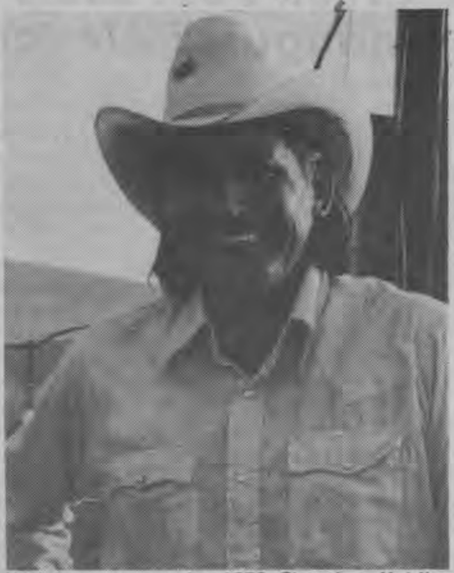
Last month, Creek Indian actor Will "Sonny" Sampson was hospitalized in Houston in need of lung and heart transplants. He suffers from a rare disease, scleroderma, which scars heart and lung tissues, according to his physician at the Methodist Hospital.

The 53-year old Sampson, a former Okmulgee resident, is in stable condition and in good spirits, according to his sister, Norma Jean Bible. Will and his mother will be staying in an apartment near the hospital waiting for the donor organs to be located, Bible said.

Will's first acting role was in the Academy Award winning movie, "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." His most recent role was that of an Indian medicine man in "Poltergeist II."

Fellow actor and good friend Max Gail is spearheading an effort to raise money in Los Angeles, to help cover the costs of Will's surgery.

He is slated to play the part of Chitto Harjo (Crazy Snake) in the Creek Nation motion picture "Fus Fixico" which is now being developed.



Will Sampson at the 1975 Cherokee Holdiay where he was a judge for the Miss Cherokee Pageant. -Photo by Helen Chalakee

Creeks Place in Five Tribes Student Show

Creek students won their share of honors at the recent Five Tribes Museum Student Art Show held in Muskogee. The Show, which drew approximately 100 entries this year from students grades 7-12 and members of one of the Five Civilized Tribes, is an annual event and was held this year at the Museum Art Gallery.

The exhibit opened March 8 and ran through April 3.

The following Creek students were among the winners in the 1987 Five Tribes Museum Student Art Show; Seventh Grade - Painting: Third Place - Sandra Sapulpa, Eufaula Jr., for "Untitled"; Honorable Mention - William Haney, Morris Middle School, for "Untitled."

Ninth Grade: Honorable Mention - Walter Brown, Morris, "Este K'ene."

Tenth Grade - Honorable Mention - Gene Daniel, Eufaula, for "Hunter."

Eleventh Grade - Second Place - Jimmy Stone, Sapulpa High, for "Missed." In that same division, Geneva Rabbit, Morris, for "Eagle Scouts."

Twelfth Grade - Chris Fielding, Eufaula, Honorable Mention for "Chitto Harjo."

In the Sculpture and Woodcarving Division, Patricia Pearce of Morris placed in the Honorable Mention category for "Silver Hawk."

Omaha Indians Subject of Educational Film

The Native American Public Broadcasting Consortium has provided funding for the series "We Are One," a Nebraska Dept. of Education cultural presentation on the Omaha tribe, to be expanded into three, 30-minute shows. The new 90 minute series concentrates on the coming of age of Ni'bthaska of the Umoho.

The program will follow the 13-year old Omaha Indian youth through the first summer of his manhood. The story is set in the 1800's when the Omaha Indian culture was still intact and thriving.

The program is produced by NAPBC, the Nebraska Dept. of Education and the Nebraska Educational Television Network.

Red Cloud Indian Art Show June 7

Benefactors of American Indian artists have provided more than $6,000 in awards for this year's Red Cloud Indian Art Show, which opens June 7 at Pine Ridge, South Dakota.

Now in its 19th year, the Red Cloud show is open to all native American artist--Indian, Eskimo and Aleut--eighteen years or older, and is the nation's largest show of its kind.

"All art works entered must be for sale, and each year 40 per cent or more of the works displayed are sold, Brother C.M. Simon, S.J. director of the show, said.

No entry fees are charged, and the show is admission free to the public, June 7 through August 9.

Artists wishing to enter their works can get entry forms and details by writing to The Heritage Center, Inc., Red Cloud Indian School, Pine Ridge, South Dakota 57770.

Joe Washington Wins First for Beadwork

Joe Washtington, Adult Ed Teacher-Manager at Creek Nation, has placed First in the Beadwork category of the First Annual "Art Under The Oaks" Five Tribes Museum Competition held April 11-12 in Muskogee.

Washington received $75 in the First Place for his beadwork pattern representing the Creek Stompdance Fire, done on a buckskin bag.

MNN Needs Senior Photos

All Seniors! Send your photos in to the MNN and a brief paragraph about yourself and your future plans upon graduation, for a special feature in the Muscogee Nation News. Send the photo and paragraph to: Muscogee Nation News, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Creek Woman Benefits From Tulsa Police Dept. Minority Recruitment

"The City of Tulsa has engaged in an ever expanding minority recruitment process to find quality officers for the Tulsa Police Dept. Native Americans should take full advantage of these efforts and consider sworn police work as a career and a viable way of directly serving their community," said Dr. Martin Anderson, Testing Coordinator of the City of Tulsa, Personnel Office and Personnel Analyst for the City's police and fire departments.

"There are two ways in which minorities and others can become directly involved with the Tulsa Police Department" relates Dr. Anderson. "The first way is to become a sworn officer which can be in the form of a Community Service Officer (CSO) or as an Apprentice Police Officer (APO) with the City of Tulsa. Both jobs require the applicant to be twenty-one years of age, pass written and physical agility tests, pass a screening board interview, pass a background check, and pass a medical examination. Each job requires applicants to have normal vision and hearing, weight proportional to their height, a clean criminal record, and no history of serious physical defects, diseases or deformities. The CSOs can come on board with a high school diploma or GED and they undergo a basic nine week academy leading to being a sworn peace officer.

THe APOs can come on board with at least 108 college semester hours and they undergo a sixteen-week field training experience. CSOs can become APOs after getting their college hours and a good recommendation from their supervisor. I usually need to replace CSOs as a result of their becoming APOs rather than being due to resignations."

"The second way to become directly involved with the Tulsa Police Department is as a College intern or practicum student. An unpaid internship/practicum experience is available to eligible college and university students which provides an opportunity to learn a great deal about the police department and services of the City of Tulsa. Persons from as far away as Wisconsin are participating in our internship program," explained Dr. Anderson.

Sue Miller, Creek, is an example of Native Americans who have taken advantage of the Minority Recruitment program of the City of Tulsa. Sue, 26, just graduated (December 4) from the Tulsa Police Academy as a Community Service Officer. She has been assigned to the Tulsa Airport with Dispatcher duties. She will go on to complete the 108 college semester hours to become a APO or sworn peace officer. "I have always wanted to be a police officer, basically because I have wanted to help people - this gives me the opportunity," said Mrs. Miller, who added that aside from the public service aspect of an officer's duties, she feels very strongly that there should be a greater effort made at recruiting Native Americans for the Police Department and the City of Tulsa.

Officer Sue Miller

Mrs. Miller and her husband, Farris, an employee of Rockwell International in Tulsa, make their home in Henryetta, where she was raised. The couple are expecting their first child in July. Her parents are Clarence and Emily Bunny of Tulsa and she attends Thewathle Indian Baptist Church in Dustin.

For further information about becoming a CSO, APO, or college intern should contact Dr. Anderson at 918-592-7433 or writing him at the Tulsa Personnel Office, 200 Civic Center, Tulsa, OK 74103.

Morning Star Presents Awareness Program

The Morning Star Drug, Alcohol and Inhalant Awareness Program have visited Grade Schools and High Schools across the Creek Nation.

Faculty and student response are reported to be over-whelming that both users and faculty seem to be at a loss of substance abuse. The students loss, being caught up unaware of the dangers involved and the faculty not trained in substance abuse to spot problem areas where counseling should be available.

At one time the small rural schools did not have to deal with a lot of the problems that biggers schools had. The sad fact about this problem is, alcohol, drugs, and inhalants are no respecter of persons, race or culture and have infiltrated our small rural schools.

With the Awareness Program reaching students who may or may not have these problems, the feedback they have received has warned them of this generation suffering and often times with no one or no place to turn to, but to each other. With this we know that "when the blind lead the blind the end result is falling."

The program will be presented to the Ryal School on April 15. We want to reach as many schools before the summer vacation begins.

The Awareness Program is an Outreach located in Bixby, Okla. Along with the program comes the Parent Awareness Program designed to educate parents and communities, organizations and churches on drug abuse.

The President is Rev. Negiel Bigpond, Jack Sunagoowie, Director, Rita Williams, Coordinator, Debbie Sunagoowie and Gwen Harry, Research Analyst.

If your school, church or community would be interested in our Awareness Program please feel free to contact these numbers. (918) 366-3300 or 918-756-8700 ext 328. or write: Morning Star Outreach, P.O., Box 97, Bixby, Okla. 74008

American Indians and the U.S. Constitution

Institute for the Development of Indian Law

Did you know that much of the colonists military success during the Revolutionary War was due to the fact that they adopted military tactics used by the American Indians?

Did you know that thousands of American Indians supported the colonist efforts against British oppression?

Did you know that the federal style of government described in the United States Constitution was modeled after American Indian examples?

Did you know that at the end of the American Revolution, the United States Government considered making the Delaware Tribe the fourteenth state?

IF YOU ARE LIKE MOST AMERICANS, YOU DID NOT KNOW ANY OF THE ABOVE BECAUSE MOST SOCIAL STUDIES TEXTS AND HISTORY BOOKS HAVE COMPLETELY IGNORED THE ROLE INDIANS HAD ON THE POLITICAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF THIS GREAT COUNTRY. THEY ARE, RATHER, RESPECTED SIMPLY AS "SAVAGE TRIBES."

From 1987 to 1991, the United States will be celebrating the Bicentennial of the United States Consitution. The celebration is being coordinated by the congressionally mandated Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution headed by retired Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren E. Burger. Burger made his decision to step-down from the nation's highest court because of his deep belief in the importance of the 200th anniversary of the Constitution as an unparalleled opportunity for Americans to learn more about their nation's history and form of government.

Similarly, the Institute for the Development of Indian Law's Director, Kirke Kickingbird, views the bicentennial celebration as an unprecedented opportunity to educate the American public about the role that Indian political and legal institutions had on the founding of the United States Government and the Constitution.

"American history between 1492-1834 is inextricably interwoven with the history of American Indian tribes," according to Kickingbird. *"Oddly, however, the story is rarely portrayed accurately. Indian history is placed within the context of "natural history", relegated to museums of natural history, anthropology and archeology departments. Rarely does the History of the American Indian take its rightful place within the context of the History of the United States--its people, societies and government.*

Kickingbird Associates and the Institute for the Development of Indian Law are involved in a research and education project designed to show how the founders of America went to school with the Indians--in the forests, on the prairies, and in the councils of government.

Long before Columbus discovered America, a federal constitution had been adopted by American Indian Nations which established the democratic principles of initiative, recall, referendum and equal suffrage. These nations were part of the Iroquois Confederacy of the Six Nations. Benjamin Franklin urged the colonial governors to follow the scheme of union created by the Six Nations in organizing an American government under the Articles of Confederation. Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence and the first Bill of Rights, cited the Indian preference for local self-government as an enduring element of American democracy.

Agriculture, medicine, property, political theories, political institutions--all of these are of American Indian origin that the people of the United States use today. Yet the story is little known and less appreciated.

With its aim of celebrating the impact of American Indian on the United States Constitution and vice versa, the project is designed to:

--Inform the American public about the influences of American Indian tribes and governments on the formulation of that document.

--Undo stereotypical misconception about the legal and political relationships between Indians and the American government.

--Promote a positive attitude toward Indian tribes, governments and individuals on the part of non-Indian.

--Provide a factual and theoretical framework for scholars of government, American history and law.

The project, which is being launched by funds made available by the Administration for Native Americans, Department of Health and Human Services, under a subcontract from the Baltimore American Indian Center will include:

--A paperback book by Kirk Kickingbird entitled, "The American Indian and the United States Constitution."

--A booklet summarizing the major points made in the paperback.

--A video presentation for use in educational and promotional activities.

--Public Service Announcements.

--Brochures

--A Teacher-Training project.

Additional funds are being sought from other governmental agencies, private foundations and corporations to complete the project. The brochures, booklet and video are scheduled to be ready by August, 1987.

If you would like more information about the project or are interested in the book or materials write or call the Institute. They may be an excellent adjunct to your own bicentennial celebration events. *Institute for the Development of Indian Law, 1104 Glyndon Street, S.E., Vienna, VA 33180. Phone 703/938-7822.*

—NOTICE—

For several years the Communications Department has provided free video duplication services of programs produced by the Department upon request. However, due to budget cutbacks and equipment maintenance costs, we are charging $5 for each video program duplicated. There are 17 programs now available from the department on Creek subjects and more will be produced in the future. Please contact Gary Robinson at 756-8700 ext 310 for questions or more detailed information.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Case No. SC-86-3

DANNY BRUNER, d/b/a
CHEBON'S INDIAN SMOKE SHOP
Appellant,
V.
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, ex rel,
CREEK NATION TAX COMMISSION,
Respondent.

ORDER

Appeal from the district Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Chinnubie McIntosh, Trial Judge.

Appeal from order of Muscogee (Creek) Nation District /court upholding revocation of Defendant's license to market tobacco products by Creek Nation Tax Commission and Granting an injunction to prohibit sale and marketing of tobacco products under the authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Order of the Trial Court affirmed as modified.

John G. Ghostbear,
for Defendant-Appellant.
Sherrin Watkins, for
Plaintiff-Appellee.

The issues raised by Defendant-Appellant, Danny Brunner, d/b/a Chebon's Smoke Shop; are: (1)Whether the Tribal Court was qualified to sit as Trial Judge under the provisons of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation due to lack of sufficient blood quantum; and (2) Whether sufficient evidence was submitted to support Trial Court's decision.

This Court finds the proposition, that the Tribal Judge did not have jurisdiction and qualification to try this matter, is without merit for the following reasons:

Article VII of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which establishes and defines the judicial branch of Creek government contains all that is said regarding the Supreme court and Inferior Courts. Article VII provides that Justice of the Supreme Court and Judges of Inferior Court are to be appointed by the chief, subject to the majority approval of the National Council. Nothing therein mandates that said Justices and Judges shall be full citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and is specifically set forth and provided for in the articles that pertain to the elected offices of Chief, Second Chief, and members of the National Council.

Article III, Section 4 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and wherein the phrase appears: "All Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood, who are less than one-fourth Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood, shall be considered citizens and shall have all rights of entitlements as members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation EXCEPT THE RIGHT TO HOLD OFFICE", is construed to be of a general nature and application, and, therefore subordinate to Article VII, which is controlling. From the use of the language, "except the right to hold office", the clear intent of the framers of our Constitution is evident since appointments to office are not held as a matter of right, but exists as an honor, and a privilege; and said language only applies to the elective offices of Chief, Second Chief and members of the National Council.

Thus, Appellant's contention that Judge McIntosh was constitutionally prohibited from holding the appointive office of District Judge is without merit. Therefore, the Court renders judgment in favor of the Plantiff-Appellee, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on the aforesaid constitutional issue.

This court finds the proposition that no evidence was submitted to support the Trial court's decision is also without merit for the following reason:

The Hearing had on the 10th day of September, 1986, before Judge McIntosh was predicated on Plaintiff-Appellee's Petition for a permanent injunction against the Appellant.

Said hearing was not a trial de nova wherein it would have been necessary to re-try all of the issues raised and adjudicated in the revocation hearing, held June 16, 1986, before William E. Foster, Game and Tax Commissioner and Fact-Finding Agency of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The only recourse available to Appellant by which to review the actions of said Fact Finding Agency, was by a direct and timely appeal from said fact finding decision. That never having been done, the said decision became final. The Appellant is attempting to re-try, and have re-examined, those issues that were settled in the said revocation hearing. To raise any of the issues so finalized, amounts to a collateral attack on a subsistent and valid judgement, and will not be tolerated.

In the case at bar, it was necessary to show only that notice and due process were afforded Appellant at said revocation hearing, and the evidence is unrefuted that Appellant continued to sell and market tobacco products in violation of the Law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation after his said license was revoked.

Therefore, the Court finds that Appellant's said license was lawfully revoked by said Fact Finding Agency and after said revocation, Appellant continued to market tobacco products in violation of the Laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. That Plaintiff-Appellee is entitled to a permanent Restraining Order as prayed for in said Petition, and that the judgement of the Trial Court be affirmed.

However, the Court takes the liberty to modify said judgement to correspond to the relief petitioned and prayed for by the Plaintiff-Appellee. Therefore, a permanent injunction is hereby granted against Danny Bruner, d/b/a Chebon's Indian Smoke Shop, and his agents and servants, from receiving or selling within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation untaxed and unstamped cigarettes and tobacco products in violation of the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation until all taxes are paid in full to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and until such reports, as are required by Muscogee (Creek) Nation, have been filed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; and until said Danny Bruner has obtained a retail license from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tax Commission for the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products and obtained a permit to conduct business pursuant to the laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

This judgement of the Trial Court as modified is hereby affirmed.

DONE BY ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT IN CONFERENCE THIS 7th DAY OF MARCH, 1987.

(s) Elliott Howe, Justice
(s) Michael Flud, Chief Justice
(s) Wilma Berryhill, Justice
(s) Willard Pitman, Justice
(s) Clarence F. Douglass, Justice

Princess Committee Acknowledges Support

The Creek Nation Princess Committee, wishes to express their appreciation to the following individuals for their support of this years Princess Pageant by participating as MC and Judges: Dr. Ruth Arrington, Second Chief Perry Beaver, Miss Indian Oklahoma, Teresa Shoemaker, Ron West and Woody Kenny.

We also want to thank the Muskogee Indian Community, Rep. Frank Kamp and the Okmulgee Indian Community for contributing gifts for the Princess.

CREEK ELDER RAYMOND O. YARGEE, 76, IS SHOWN BEING INTERVIEWED BY TEXAS LINGUIST DON HARDY on the Creek language, at Yargee's Okmulgee home. Hardy is a graduate student at Rice University doing his doctoral dissertation on symantics of the Creek language.

Recent Conference on Solvent Abuse Reveals Depth of Abuse Among Indians

By Kathryn Bell

An International Native American Conference on Solvent Abuse was held in Tulsa, March 2,3,4.

The Conference, sponsored by the Native American Research and Technical Assistance Center, Seminole, OK, was the first of it's kind created to address the growing problem of solvent abuse among Indian communities in the US and Canada.

Conference registration was numbered at approximately 100, for the conference that provided prevention and treatment strategies in the concurrent workshops held each day.

The conference, in general, disseminated the most up-to-date information about Solvent Abuse (sniffing-inhalant), facilitated sharing of program and community intervention and generated recommendations and suggestions for community intervention.

The medical, emotional and spiritual implications of inhalant abuse were presented by such notable experts in the field as; Dr. Luis Fornazzari of the Addiction Research Foundation in Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Dr. Phil Lane, Jr., of the Four Worlds Development Project at the University of Lethbridge; Dr. John Williams of the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Studies at the University of South Dakota and Morris Dyer, Health Education, IHS; and Jake Whitecrow, Conference Co-Chairman. Dyer served as Conference Coordinater, as well as Travis Jackson, President of the Native American Research and Technical Assistance Center.

In addition, the following gave workshops at the conference; Dr. Harlan Hill, Fred Hutchinson Research Center, Seattle, Washington, Miguel Acosta, Solvent Abuse Foundation for Education in San Antonio, Texas, Dr. Milton Tenebin, Manitoba Poison Center, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, Bernard Albaugh, IHS, Clinton, OK, Dr. Douglas Gill, Illinois, and Thomas Stanitis, Alcohol and Drug Problems Assoc., OKC.

Dr. Luis Fornazzari, conference keynote speaker, gave a slide presentation and film on the effects of inhalant abuse longterm on three of his patients. The following critical data on the abuse was pointed out - the effects of inhalants (gasoline, ether, contact cements, model airplane glue, ether, etc.) are immediately absorbed into the body, particularly within the brain and stay within the body for 10-15 days, with the following toxic reactions possible - panic reaction, psychosis, organic brain syndrome and toxic overdose (cardiac disorder, suffocation and sudden death); in treatment, there are no specific antidotes to date, although life-saving measures (e.g.) mouth-to-mouth resisitation, can be used, as well as reassurance, elimination of acute stimuli, and protection of hostile outburst.

Dr. Fornazzari's research presented a profile of an inhalant abuser - young, more male victims than female, those coming from the most deprived section of the population, and those undergoing transcultural conflict. "Those in the treatment field ask - how much inhalant abuse is too much — I say, none is too much..." emphasized Fornazzari.

Workshop presenter Miguel Acosta, who has had eleven years of experience in clinical abuse treatment among his own Chicano people in Texas, believes that there is a direct correlation between inhalant abusers being, according to his own research, most usually, the children of alcoholics. He offered this statistics;

(Continued on page 7)

Creek Elders Interviewed As Texas Linguist Studys Creek Language

By Kathryn Bell

Raymond Yargee, a full-blood Creek elder, living in Okmulgee, was recently interviewed by Texas linguist, Don Hardy, about the Creek language. Hardy is a graduate student at Rice University, studying the technical aspects of the language.

Hardy explained his purpose in interviewing the Creek elders located within Creek Nation. "I have been conducting interviews with the elders as part of my doctoral dissertation on the Creek language. There aren't that many people working at present with this language and the research needs to be done now so that the data can be taken down from the elders of the tribe." Hardy said the interviews will become a part of the National Archives to be preserved after his research is completed.

"When you are working with a North American language, you are trying to preserve American culture. And that language is the most important artifact of the culture," continued Hardy on the importance of preserving languages,

Yargee, who grew up in a home where his language was spoken and fluent in Creek, shared his feelings on the importance of Hardy's work: "It is very important to my way of thinking to preserve the Indian languages - our language was the first to be spoken on the North American continent - it is a God-given language and I want to see it continue..." Yargee explained that he did not learn English until he learned it from the non-Indian stock hands who came to work on his parents farm when he was a young boy. "Then when I grew up and went to Chilocco, we mostly spoke English, but when we Creek boys would get together down at the stockpins to work - we'd smoke, talk and speak Creek to one another," he laughed heartily.

Yargee was born and raised near the Nuyaka Community of the Creek Nation. "In 1949 I went West, because we had to something and go somewhere to get work 'cause we were about to starve to death! Well, anyway, I came back to the Creek Nation in 1979," said Yargee, a retired pipe-fitter.

Since last summer, Hardy has interviewed eight Creek elders in this area; Susie Monday, Martha Chalakee, Hepsey Gilroy, Henry Tarpalachee, Millie Yardy, Roosevelt Derrisaw, Ben Beaver and Mr. Yargee. He plans to interview others, as well. "I would like to express my appreciation to all of these people for allowing me to interview them on their native language - they have been very cooperative and friendly," concluded Hardy.

According to research on linguistics, there are at least 5,000 languages in the world, but fewer than 200 of them are written. Linguists like Hardy involved in the structure and semantics of language are fascinated by how a certain language shapes the culture of it's people. The structure of languages also, are varied and complex Hardy noted, "The Muscogee (Creek) language is complicated in that it has many parts and has basic sound difference - there are no voice stops, no "b's," or "k's" and is organized structurally in a SOV manner, or Subject, Object, Verb, instead of SVO, which is the structuring of our English language - Subject, Verb, Object." There are six possible logical word orders. Forty percent of the languages of the world use subject-verb-object; English and Chinese fall into this category, while Creek and other Indian languages use the SOV word order. So do Japanese and about fifty percent of the other languages of the world, according to research.

Editorial:

English As Official Language a Disgrace

English as the official language conceals a hidden agenda. It sounds like the American flag, motherhood and apple pie. Who is against apple pie? After all, what is wrong with English as the official language? Isn't that a cornerstone of the republic?

Of course, but that's not the issue. That's the smokescreen. The hidden agenda is the political activity that compromises one group of Americans at the expense of another. It exploits the fear and ignorance of ethnic and cultural differences of the body politic. It attacks bilingual ballots, bilingual education and the use of non-English languages in the United States as if all Americans were born speaking English. What do we say to the Navajo who speaks Navajo? That he/she isn't American? That they don't have the right to be Navajo? What do we say to the Mexican-American whose ancestors came over on the Santa Maria? not the Mayflower, and married into the Indian tribes of the Americas? That they aren't American? What do we say to the South Korean veterans in our community who bled with us at Pusan? To our Vietnamese friends and allies? Have we forgotten? They are all Americans who speak English, as well as Navajo, Spanish, Korean and Vietnamese. Is this racism that denies one group of Americans their birthright? Are they less American than the European immigrants of the 18th, 19th and early 20 centuries? I think not.

English is vital for survival. It means bread and butter to the immigrants. No one has tried to replace English with a foreign language. Some Americans are born into this heritage and adopt the culture. Others acquire English skills and never lose their cultural identity. America has always been the benefactor.

English as the official language is legally redundant, politically opportunistic and morally bankrupt. It purports to be what it is not. It tries to disenfranchise Americans rather than give them dignity and hope of full participation in the American dream.

Manuel H. Guerra,
Former Consultant
US Civil Rights Commission
Washington, D.C.

1987-88 Creek Nation Princess...

RHONDA HARJO, THE NEW 1987-88 CN PRINCESS is shown at far left at the Princess Reception held April 7 at the CN Complex Dining Hall. Shown also are Princess Pageant contestants, Robyn Whitecloud, Joanna Wacoche and the Second Runner-Up in the Pageant, Sandra Lewis. The First Runner-Up was Konya Sue Foreman of Tulsa, who is not shown in this photo.

CREEK NATION PRINCESS continued from Page 1...

Harjo of Okemah and Eunice Isom of Claremore. She is employed as a legal secretary with a law firm in Oklahoma City, as well as attending CSU parttime. Ms. Harjo attends Glorieta Baptist Church in the City, where she is the pianist for the Youth Evangelism Team and is the secretary for the Singles class.

Among her achievements, Ms. Harjo was the Co-Salutatorian for her 1983 graduating class, lettered for three years in her high school Cross-Country Track team and in Basketball. She was on the Dean's Honor Roll at Oklahoma State University where she was also named in the top 3% of the College of Business Administration and she was in the Honor Society for four years in high school.

Other honors include (high school); Title IV Outstanding Female of the Year, Who's Who Among High School Students, National Guard Academic All- American Athletics, Second Alternate in the Oklahoma State Piano Competition, 1983 Basketball Homecoming Queen. In college, Ms. Harjo was an OSU Honor Scholar, recipient of the CSU Minority Scholarship, Secretary-Treasurer of the House District 100 (Democratic Party) and Precinct Chairman (258) of the Democratic Party. She is a member of the National Association of Legal Secretaries.

During the Pageant, Ms. Harjo was escorted by Nathan Harjo, her brother.

Preference Laws Designed to Give Native Americans More Control

WASHINGTON-Indian preference is a series of laws which extends preference in hiring to Native Americans for positions in the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service.

First enacted in the 1880's, the laws which are unique in the federal government, were designed to give Indians greater control over their affairs.

Although at first glance the laws would appear to violate federal equal opportunity laws, in case after case the courts have upheld the Indian peoples' right of self-determination.

Over the years, the law has been strengthened and today anyone who is a member of a recognized tribe or is of Indian descent has preference in applying for both excepted service and competitive positions at the BIA, the IHS and any other unit within the Interior Department that provides services to Indians.

Most Indians say the preference laws, if properly enforced, are beneficial. But others say the laws have perpetuated the myth that without the help they get through preference, Indians would not have the skills or capabilities to hold responsible positions in government.

Here are some of the highlights in the history of Indian preference:

-History of Indian Preference-

**__1882__- A series of laws is enacted providing preference "as far as practicable" to Indians for clerical and mechanical jobs on reservations and at government agencies that deal with Indians.*

**__1934__- The Indian Reorganization Act strengthens the earlier laws, directing the Secretary of the Interior to establish separate hiring standards for Indians who "may be appointed without regard to civil service laws. . . to the Indian Office. . . (and) shall hereafter have the preference to appointment to vacancies in any such positions."*

**__1947__- The Civil Service Commission grants preference in RIF actions to Indians.*

**__1972__- Mancari v. Morton class action suit seeks to prevent implementation of expanded Indian preference policy. Case eventually goes to the Supreme Court, where on June 17, 1974, the court upholds government policies that grant Indian preference in hiring promotions.*

**__1979__- In the Oglala Sioux v. Cecil D. Andrus, et al., the Eight Circuit Court of Appeals rules that the Interior Department has failed to implement separate hiring standards for Indians.*

**__1979__- Following a complaint that Indian preference had a detrimental affect on the careers of non-Indian employees at BIA, those employees were given the option of early-out retirement which contains a waiver of Indian preference.*

**__1984__- In Preston v. Heckler, IHS employees who applied for a position as a social worker but rated ineligible, lacking both education and experience files suit in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. She claims the Secretary of Health and Human Services has not established separate hiring standards for Indians as directed by the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. The Court agrees. As a result, separate hiring standards were enforced for Indians in every job in the agency.*

INHALANT ABUSE continued...

75% of all fatal accidents are alcohol-related, 80% of all suicides are alcohol-related, 90% of homocides are alcohol-related and 54% of the Indian population are users or abusers of alcohol. In addition, the highest mortality rate of alcoholism occurrs in Native Americans between the ages of 14-44 - four times higher than the national average.

Acosta said his prevention model includes, information, education, alternatives, and intervention.

"There are three main groups of inhalant abusers; those who are in search of cultural identity, those who are children of alcoholic and drug abusers, and children of families who have experienced grief," said Acosta. "But lack of cultural identity seems to play a large part in inhalant abuse - these youth are getting into solvents because of the whole question of acculturation."

Dr. Phil Lane's presentation emphasized the holistic approach to inhalant abuse treatment; pointing out the correlation between a scientific v. a spiritual concept of treatment. "The spiritual aspect is absolutely necessary to the healing of an individual and that healing will not be complete otherwise. The spirit is the nexus of human experience and must be foremost in our consideration for treatment," he stressed.

Dr. Lane said this holistic approach was the foundation for the work done at the Four Worlds Project in dealing with abuse among Indians; "Four years ago we approached Indian elders across North America on how we could stop chemical and alcohol abuse among our people and based on the amazing responses we received, we have tried to implement these findings into our program and hope to eliminate this problem by the year 2000." Lane added that the startling confirmations among the elders is that there are certain universal truths, based on spiritual concepts, that can end all problems of our race that have resulted from our people leaving the spiritual road that we have always taken as our course in life.

Some of the strategies Lane discussed included; using the primary process of developing treatment shaped from the culture, using a holistic process in developing treatment, stressing that the community see that where they have no vision, there will be no effective treatment developed for the problem, that moral and spiritual development must be heeded as part of the treatment, and that all must participate in the basic concepts of the treatment strategy to be used. "There can be no unity, political or otherwise, among our people unless the spiritual and natural laws that have governed us for so long, be returned to once again," he added. "The hurt of one is the hurt of all and the honor of one is the honor of all..."

Participating sponsors were; The National Indian Health Board, United Indian Recovery Assoc., Four Worlds Dev. Project, Oklahoma State Dept of Mental Health, Dept. of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Studies, and the University of South Dakota.

Creeks Participate in Poster Contest

Creek students from Eufaula were recent participants in a Fountainhead State Park contest, sponsored by the Fountainhead Park, Checotah Area Artists, and Lake Eufaula Art Guild.

The following students are from Eufaula; Chris Feeling, Cara Williams, Adam Jones, Mike Lewis, Jacque Daney, Robert Tiger, William Roachelle, and Marlena Shaver. Tiger placed First, Roachelle placed Second and Marcus Hampton placed Third. Dawnite Roachelle also participated in the Poster Contest.

Pvt. Rodney Hobia

Hobia in Basic Training

Pvt. Rodney Eugene Hobia son of Wilburn L. and Mary L. Buckley Hobia of Oklahoma City, Okla has volunteered into the United States Army Jan. 11, 1987.

He is taking his training in Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Pvt. Hobia will graduate in June and then a furlough of two weeks before his transfer for over seas duty to Germany or Korea.

He graduated from Western Height High School in 1985 and attended Haskell Indian College in 1986.

He is the grandson of the late Louis Buckley and Delia A. Buckley of Sand Creek Indian Baptist church of Wetumka, Okla.

—OBITUARIES—

TOM EDISON DAVIS

Tom Edison Davis 77-year old resident of Okmulgee, died Friday March 27, in Okemah.

Mr. Davis was born March 26, 1910 in Okfuskee County, and moved to Okmulgee as a young man, residing in the city since that time. He was a retired welder, having been employed with Campbell Specialty Company in Okmulgee and Acme Machine Shop in Tulsa. Mr. Davis was a member of the First Indian Baptist Church and had served as director of the Baptist Men's Sunday School Class.

Survivors include his wife, Elizabeth Davis of the home; one step-son, Kent Factor of Tulsa; two step-daughters, Patricia Factor of Bristow, and Diana Stengard of New York; and several nieces and nephews.

Prayer service was held at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 28, at the Cantrell Ivory Chapel. Wake services were held Sunday, March 29, at the First Indian Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held 2 p.m. March 30, at the First Indian Baptist Church. Rev. Bridge Chuckluck officiated and assisted by Rev. Dan Phillips. Interment was in Okmulgee Cemetery under the direction of Cantrell-Kelley-Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were be members of First Indian Baptist Church's Men's Sunday School Class.

WILLIAM "BILL" CONLEY

Funeral services were held for William "Bill" Conley at 2:30 p.m. Friday March 13, at the Wetumka Assembly of God Church. Rev. Finis Pack officiated and burial was in the Wetumka Cemetery.

Mr. Conley was born Jan. 10, 1900 in Calvin, Indian Territory to Oscar and Hepsey Conley (nee Hepsey Leader), and died March 9 at the Creek Nation Hospital, Okemah at the age of 87.

Mr. Conley was raised by his grandmother Liza Hawkins and an uncle Jim Hawkins. He attended Bacone Boarding School. He had two half brothers, Harry Wiseman deceased and Gilbert Wiseman deceased. He married Pearl Kirkpatrick in 1919 and together they raised 8 children. His wife Pearl deceased Jan. 11, 1959. He was a cattleman most of his life and lived in Wetumka.

Mr. Conley was a member of the Wetumka Assembly of God Church for 54 years. The one song he loved and knew by heart was "Heavenly Sunlight".

Survivors include four sons, Douglas Conley, Colorado Springs, Co. Bill Conley, Tehama, Calif. Oscar Conley, Long Beach, Ca., and Glenn Conley, Palm Springs, Ca., Four daughters, Thelma Wyman, Fresno, Ca.,Nova Gail Ball, San Luis, Obispo, Ca., Patty Lanning, Canoga Park, Ca., and Brenda Chambers, Florala, Al., 22 grandchildren, 32 great grand - children 4 great-great-grand-children and several nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were John Campbell, Dale Hulstine, Darrell Smith, Ron Wiseman, Craig Wiseman and Jeff Chambers.

TIM L. BARNETT

Tim L. Barnett died Wednesday, March 18, 1987 at the Cox Medical Center South at Springfield, Mo. at the age of 51. He was born on August 6, 1935 at Hanna, Okla. He married K. Darlene Fisher on December 27, 1958 at the Council House Friends Church. He was a member of the Creek-Seminole Indian Tribes of Oklahoma and very active in the Indian community.

He was a Lithographer and he graduated from the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Ks.

He is survived by his wife Darlene of Springfield, three children, Audrey Barnett of Norman, Okla., Terri Barnett Herman of Springfield and Steven Barnett of Miami, Ok. Three brothers, Samuel Barnett, Jr. of Oklahoma City, Ok., Daniel Barnett of Eufaula, Ok., Charles Barnett Sr. of Iowa Park, Texas. Two Grandchildren, William Bradley Barnett and Stephanie Herman.

Wake services were held on Friday, March 20 at the Council House Friends Church. Interment was under the direction of the Worley Funeral Home.

STANLEY C. SMITH

Stanley Clyde Smith, age 77 died late Thursday afternoon at his home in Okmulgee.

Mr. Smith was born May 3, 1909 in Okemah. He was a retired missionary for the Muskogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association and was selected to work for the Southern Baptist Convention in the State of Florida and did so from 1943 until 1955. He was a member of the Greenleaf Indian Baptist Church of Okemah.

He is survived by an adopted son, Jerry Lang of Fort Pierce, Fla. and several nieces and nephews.

Wake services were held Saturday, March 14, at 7 p.m. at the Buchanan Memorial Chapel. Mr Smith was taken to Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church Sunday, March 15.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Monday, March 16, at Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church in Hitchita. Rev. Harley Barnosky officiated, and assisted by Rev. Luke McIntosh.

Burial was under the direction of the McClendon Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Rev. Alex Burgess, Rev. Legus Lowe, Rev. Robert Washington, Rev. Morris Barnett, Rev. John Tiger, and Rev. Bunny Hill.

ELLA JACOBS

Ella Jacobs died at her home in Muskogee Thursday night at the age of 64. She was the daughter of the late John A. and Nancy Jacobs.

She was born February 2, 1923 and reared in the Little River community. She graduated from Atwood High School.

She had made her home in Muskogee the last 40 years and was a retired employee of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Funeral services will be held at Bradley Funeral Home in Muskogee Monday afternoon at 1:30. Burial will be in Green Hills cemetery, Muskogee.

Survivors include three sisters, Mrs. Irene Cleghorn, Tulsa, Mrs. Anna King

Letter From Evangelist Ernest Best...

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever believeth in me shall never die."

At the Easter season our attention is drawn to our Lord Jesus Christ, and his death,burial and resurrection.Those events are the most sobering and joyous of all time. They serve as the basis of our salvation,yet many people miss their significance. Jesus Christ is the bread of life, the living water, the good shepherd, the resurrection and the life, yet he was despised and rejected in his day, and is despised and rejected in our day.

There is no doubt that Jesus Christ was resurrected from the grave, yet there are those who still do not believe in him. "Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that if thou wouldst believe thou shouldst see the glory of God?" John 11:40 If we believe, when God's glory is manifested, through his word and in the lives of people, we will recognize it. God reveals truth to those who are open to it, and the open heart responds by believing. On the other hand those who come with an unbelieving heart, go away the same way. Someone with a closed heart walks away more hateful and unbelieving than ever.

During the month of February,I stayed busy here in Oklahoma.Brother Raymond Johnson invited me to preach in three Choctaw Baptist churches. This was a blessing as it was the first time to be in their church. God blessed in a special way at Pawnee Indian Baptist when I spent a full day with them. I preached one service in one of our Creek churches. I preached a three day revival at First Indian, Okmulgee. God truly gave revival during those days. I was in a mission conference at Calvary Baptist, here in Eufaula.

I spent a week on the Pine Ridge reservation,in South Dakota,in March.It was a blessing to have two Indian men,with whom I went to school,Richmond Carr and Wallace Gambler, accompany me on that trip. We had Bible studies during the day and preaching at night. This was one of the greatest weeks we have ever had at Pine Ridge.

We had good crowds for the Bible studies and a full church at night. The Spirit of God moved in the hearts of the people. There were three men and three girls saved. There were many who came for prayer, confessing sin and for a closer walk with God. We truly rejoice in what God is able to do among our people.

After returning home, I have preached in two of our Creek churches, two nights in a Choctaw Church, in Wright City, Oklahoma, preached and showed slides of the work in a missions conference at Calvary Baptist Church, Summers, Arkansas and preached in one other non-Indian church. I preached and taught on Spiritual Gifts at an Indian Baptist youth conference at Tahlequah, Oklahoma. This conference was attended by over 200 people. God moved in the Saturday night and Sunday morning preaching services in a tremendous way. There were many saved and many more who came for prayer and rededication. We stand in awe many times as we see God work in the lives of people.

We look forward with great anticipation to the months ahead. Please pray that God will accomplish great things, for safety in travel, and good health. Thank you for your prayers and support. Thank you for your live for the Lord's work among the native people of America and Canada.

Your missionaries to the
North American Indians
Bro. Ernest & Bennie Best

OU Graduate Program for Native Americans Now Accepting Applications For 1987-88

Fellowships are being offered for Native Americans who wish to pursue graduate degrees in education at the University of Oklahoma.

Native Americans with a bachelor's degree in education or a related field are encouraged to apply for the fellowships through OU's Foundations in Native Education (FINE) program, which was established by the College of Education to provide a quality professional program of graduate study in educational leadership for American Indian educators.

One of the major goals of the program is to provide for the professional development and placement of American Indians in public school and higher education administration, and research and faculty positions, said Jerry Bread, program coordinator.

American Indians with the proper degree from an accredited college or university, some teaching experience and a 3.0 or better grade point average in the last 60 hours of course work are eligible to apply for fellowships in the master's degree program. Applicants for the doctoral program must have a master's degree in education or a related field from an accredited institution and a grade point average of 3.5 or better. They also must submit three references and an autobiography.

Bread suggests qualified applicants contact him for additional information by telephoning 405/325-5463, or writing Foundations in Native Education, College of Education, 820 Van Vleet Oval, Norman, Ok 73019.

JACOBS...

of Panama and Mrs. Becky Lena of Holdenville; also a niece, Mrs. Louise Lyons of Holdenville.

She was preceded in death by three sisters, Mrs. Lizzie Wright, Mrs. Elsie Tate and Mrs. Johnnie Mae Thompson and two brothers, Frank and Jack Jacobs.

We thank the friends and neighbors who helped during her long illness.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Dear MNN,
Social Services Dept., Senior Citizens Program and Tribal Members:

We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation and deep gratitude for the support given to us by the many friends, church members and neighbors during the time of our loss.

Mrs. Elizabeth Davis and the Family of Thomas E. Davis

Okemah Indian Community News...

By Earnestine Henneha

Okemah Indian Community held their regular monthly meeting on March 27, 1987 at the Okemah Middle School library. The meeting was opened by Chairman Frances Lowe. Prayer by Mr. Zunigah counselor of Okemah Middle School. The reports were given by each officer.

Okemah Pow-Wow...

Agenda: Pow Wow Benefit sponsored by Okemah Indian Community on February 28, 1987 was held at the New National Guard Building turn out to be a success due to bad weather Okemah was having. Different Indians dressed in different colors of costumes, with bright colors of feathers for the men dancers, also the women dancers were in bright color shawls all were from out of town and different states, but still yet due to the bad weather that didn't stop them from coming out and seeing the Pow Wow and seems like everyone was having a good time.

The Creek Princess Melinda Taryole of Creek Nation of Okmulgee was also there, also Seminole Princess of Seminole. The Okemah Indian Community had an Indian student from Okemah Middle School named Alison Berryhill represent the Okemah Indian Community, in fact there were some Indian students that was involved in the Pow Wow dances, some of the students were: Matthew Henneha and Ada Littlecreek of Okemah, Oaks School parents Valeria/Willey Littlecreek, Tava/Alison Berryhill of Okemah school parents of Alfred/Estella Berryhill. Also Indian students from Okemah School daughter of Lena Marshall gave the Lord's Prayer in sign language.

Indian students from Jones Academy School came down and joined in the dance. It's good to see Indian kids participate in this kind or any other kind of activities, for instance, the day of the Pow-Wow on Feb. 28, some of the Indian students went to band contest from Okemah School, some came back with medals for instance Michelle Hulbutta, 11 year old 7th grader of Okemah Middle School daugther of Earnestine Henneha, and Melody Grant 11 year old 7th grader at Okemah Middle school, daughter of Robert and Rena Grant of Okemah.

There may have been other Indian students that wasn't mentioned concerning band contest or pow wow dance, these names were mentioned if so, we all know the Indian students tried real hard to get what hey want and tnat's good because it's a blessing to see our Indian students/kids get involved, to see their faces light up with a smile and looks at you and say, I've done it and I'll do it again whatever it takes and this time I do better. So it's good to know the Indian kids are trying, it takes time and patience, love your Indian kids and Indian elders, be proud of them.

The Okemah Indian Community is just now trying to establish a community for the Indians in the area and other interests Indians want to get involved for the young and old. Even though there was a small amount of workers available, they carried this benefit through, but hopefully in the future the Okemah Indian Community will get better and larger, probably due to the location that we don't have right now to have a building for a permanant center, to have different activities such as Pow Wows, Bake sales, etc. also a place for communication for our young and old to have elder programs.

Hopefully soon the Okemah Indian Community will have a place for a center. We urge all Indian parents and young kids to come to meetings held every first Monday of each month, even come and listen, never know, you might have an idea to support our community and in fact in any community you're welcomed to go and listen, get involved. Not only the Okemah Indian Community but other communities need your help and support.

There's always a time a person needs help, take time and come out. Even though it took a lot of work and time to have this Pow Wow Benefit which will help the Indian students of Okemah Middle, High, and Oaks schools if they need help, the Okemah Indian Communit y will help if they can, with the help of Indian Parents of Okemah donated items for the pow wow helped out alot. The Okemah Indian Community would like to express their gratitude to the following for their contributions in making our benefit Pow Wow a success: Crystal's Video of Okemah, Visor's Grocery of Okemah, Safeway of Okemah, IGA of Okemah, Otasco of Okemah, Creek Nation of Oklahoma in Okmulgee, Tholopthlocco Tribal Town, Sue Pepper, Curtis Zunigha, March Wind, Edmond Birdcreek, Louis Holatha, Timmy Holahta, Alex Fish, Tommy Frank Jr., Robin Locust, New Nations InterTribal Pow Wow Club Lee & Geneva Douglas, Oklahoma National Guard of Okemah, Millie Hill and family, Leisha Harjo and family, Tila Harjochee and family, Lou Hudson and family, Diane Lowe and family, Delilah Grissom and family, Alia Roberts and family, Faulina Deere and friend Beverly, Clyde Johnson and family, Christine Henneha and family, LaDona Roberts and family, Alfred Berryhill and family, Earl Dunson and family, Mike Dunson and Jesse Underwood, Minnie Herrod and family, Amy Hill and family, Frances Lowe and family, Jim and Christine Burgess, Mary Robison and family and Linda Simpson.

Thanks to the people that helped out in the kitchen and concession stand. Thanks to the dancers and singers that came from different places. And, if there were names that were left out or not mentioned, you will be remembered with the Great Spirit whatever you did for the Pow Wow, thanks.

The Okemah Indian regular monthly meeting that was scheduled for April 6, 1987 was canceled due to our chairman being in the hospital and will call a meeting later, we will notify through Okemah Newspaper. The Okemah Indian Community wishes Frances Lowe get well, and may the good Lord watch over you and take care of you, we all miss you at the community. Take care and listen to the doctor.

UCLA 1988-89 Enrollment for Indian Grad Program

The University of California, Berkley recently employed Dr. Rick St. Germaine to replace Elaine Walbroek who retired as director of the American Indian Graduate Program, University of California, Berkley.

At the University of California, he is responsible for the recruitment, retention and advocacy of American Indian students into graduate studies in Public Health, Social Welfare, Business Admn., Law, Engineering, Journalism, Education, Zoology, etc.

The University has successfully operated such a program for American Indian graduate students since 1972. Under the leadership of Elaine Walbroek, 188 American Indians (including thirty-eight financially supported at other schools) have graduated with MPH degrees and been placed in positions of leadership in Indian health.

The deadline for submission of applications for enrollment in the 1987-88 school year at University of California, Berkley has passed. The next application cycle for the 1988-89 school year will begin in August. For those interested, please contact: American Indian Graduate Program, 140 Warren Hall, University of California, Berkley, Calif 94720 (415) 642-3228.

Sapulpa Indian Community News...

By Rita Williams

The Sapulpa Indian Community recently sponsored an AIDS Awareness/Prevention Seminar, at the Security National Bank in Sapulpa, March 9, 1987..

The video presentation, "Beyond Fear," an educational film on AIDS was shown to the public. Jerry Perrigo, was the main speaker and on the Task Force, City Judge and Attorney from Tulsa along with Joe Taylor from the Tulsa County Community Health Service, were on hand to answer any questions on AIDS from the community.

John Fixico, Coordinator of the AIDS Awareness Seminar and Chairman of the Sapulpa Indian Community shared his concerns, "The Indian people need educating in this area, my main concern is, reaching the Indian people with information that may say something to help prevent the deadly disease." "I don't wish to see anybody dying with a disease such as this. We are trying to reach as many young people in early years so they can be well aware when entering upon college of the risk factors involved." he stated, "By 1991, at least 500,000 to 3 million cases will be reported and somewhere in those statistics our Indian people will be numbered. I want to inform as many as I can, because of the love I have for them."

Chairman Fixico was pleased about the turnout and response stating that, they were the first in Creek County to present an AIDS Awareness Seminar. Around 60 people were in attendance. Among them were ten different churches, pastors and ministers. Also present was Mayor of Sapulpa, Carol McMasters, the Sapulpa Herald, Channel 2, and support from the Associate Judge, April Sellers White.

Mr. Fixico states, there will be a follow-up seminar in the next few months. If there are any churches, communitys or concerned people, interested in an AIDS presentation, contact Mr. Fixico at PO Box 1957, Sapulpa, OK 74067, or 224-9231.

Joe Perez

Creek Sapulpa Student State Wrestling Champ

Hoovey Joe (Blue) Perez, Creek-Pawnee, a fifth-grade student at Washington Elementary in Sapulpa, finished his wrestling season with a *record of 37 wins, one loss with 27* pins.

Blue is a member of the Sapulpa Wrestling Foundation and a member of the Little Cussetah Baptist Church.

Perez was Tulsa National Champion in his division and he placed first at the Northwest Regionals in Blackwell, OK. This qualified him to go to the State Tournament in Oklahoma City. After 3 pins and one close match with a 8-5 victory, the season ended.

Blue Perez once again reached his goal and took Oklahoma State Champion, Division III, in the 70 pound category.

Blue is a very dedicated athlete and works hard in all sports.

KELLYVILLE TITLE IV "STUDENTS OF THE MONTH" include these Creek students who were selected for the honor on the basis of good attendance, work habits, extra-curricular involvement, self-discipline, respect for their teachers and other classmates and improved academic performance in the classroom.

Know Your Rights—

As an Attorney for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I have an opportunity to identify recurring legal problems which Creek people have. I would like to address one of those problems, make you aware of it, and advise you on how to prevent it.

The problem is reservation of cemeteries in land conveyances. If you do not reserve cemetery tracts from conveyances then title to them passes to your grantee, subject to a cemetery easement. Note that a cemetery easement does not necessarily carry with it the right of future burials, but may preserve only the graves which are there at the time of conveyance.

The best method of ensuring future burials is to keep title to the cemetery tract with specific rights of ingress and egress. Another method is to convey title but specifically retain the right of continued cemetery use and burial on behalf of and by the public or a family. Consult an attorney to correctly draft a conveyance to preserve a cemetery for future burial.

*"**Sherrin Watkins***
General Counsel
Office of Justice

Joanie Childers

Childers Named "Student of the Month at Coweta

Joanie Childers was selected the "Student of the Month" for March, 1987, by the Coweta Optimist Club. Students are selected by having displayed extraordinary qualities of scholarship, leadership, citizenship, and service to the school and community.

The students were honored with a luncheon and were presented plaques. Joanie represented the Coweta Middle School. She maintains a 3.5 grade average, and is active on the track and basketball teams, and is also a member of the Middle School band where she plays the clarinet.

Joanie is a member of the Creek Tribe and is the daughter of Billie and Ken Childers of Glenpool. She is the granddaughter of Violet Freeman of Coweta,and JoAnne Bible of Glenpool and the granddaughter of the late Andy Bible.

Eufaula Indian Community to Open Smoke Shop...

CHIEF COX PRESENTS A $15,000 CHECK FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO THE EUFAULA INDIAN COMMUNITY, who was represented Chairman Kenneth Tiger, who accepted the check. Those in attendance at the presentation were officers and members of the Community; Frank Kamp, Board member, Van McIntosh, Board member, John Marshall, Board member and Harriet Tiger, Secretary. Shown in the background are Judy Pickering, Treasurer and Tom Pickering, Vice-Chairman. The funds will be used for a Smoke Shop for the Community, to be located in the former Manpower office by the Eufaula Clinic. Opening date is estimated to be during the first week of April.

Mason High Plans Indian Awareness Week

The Mason JOM Parent Committee and Title IV-A are sponsoring an "Indian Cultural Awareness Days" April 22-23-24 at the Mason High School.The program will start Wednesday morning at 9:00 a.m. with the Superintendent of Mason School, Mr.Hayes giving the Welcome Address. The Introduction by Irene Culley, JOM Chairperson and the Invocation Lords prayer in Indian sign language by Alisa Douglas, 3rd grade and Shelly Hicks Kindergarten. Introduction of guests by the Principal Chief Cox. Creek Council members, Press Johnson, Dorothy Miller, and Carney Roberts. Plus the 1987 Creek Nation Princess and other Creek Nation Staff members. Margaret Maulding will be giving the Creek History and Stella Roberts will be speaking on Indian Clans. The Arts and Craft, Religious, Medicine and Church history will be on display everyday. Lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. That afternoon the students will view a cultural videotape on Creeks produced by the CN Communications Dept.

Thursday-9:00 a.m. Creek Hymns and Prayer by the area church members of Buckeye Indian Baptist, Montezuma Indian Baptist and Prairie Springs. There will be a presentation of Indian Church history by Gladys Mouss. Cherokee Representative and Tribal Representatives. Sapulpa High School presentation by director, Dwight Pickering and Mason School presentation by JOM students directed by Faron Culley and Barney Harjochee. An Indian food display. (Thursday only) No presentation after lunch. That evening at 7:00 p.m. will be a concert with the Sequoyah Indian singers and at 7:30 p.m. a Fashion Show with the Fife Collection. Refreshments will follow in the old Cafeteria.

Friday-9:00 a.m. will be Indian dress-up day. Randall Hicks, Title IV-A , Student Representative. Ron West, Director of JOM Indian Education Program. Presentation by Anna Bland, JOM Facilitator. Okmulgee School Presentation, director, Glenda Sullivan. Closing Speech by Geneva Douglas, JOM Home School Aide. Staff dinner will be from 11-12:30 in the Home Economics room .

The directions are 11 miles north of I-40 on Hwy 48 and 2 miles east. 18 miles south of Bristow and 2 miles east. For more information contact Geneva Douglas (918) 623-0231 or 623-2218.

Reader Needs Resource Person...

Dear Muskogee Nation News,

I am doing a report on the Creek Nation and I would like to ask you to see if you could send some brochures that I could use in my report.

I was also wondering if you had any Creek representatives in the Joplin, Missouri area who could come to my school and talk to my class about the Creek culture and maybe show some native articles on the Creeks.

Thank you so much for your time.

NOTE: If you would like to help Christi in this area, please contact her at the following address:

Christi Lee
Rt. 1 Box 341
Joplin, MO 64801

BACONE COLLEGE HOMECOMING ROYALTY during Homecoming activities at Bacone College in Muskogee, included; left to right, Naomi Tiger, Tulsa, freshman, the Lady Warriors softball team representative, escorted by Troy Reed, Alabama, and Lynelle Roberts, Sapulpa, Freshman and the Cheerleaders representative, escorted by Israel DeLaRosa, from Texas.

MELISSA CULLEY, MASON SCHOOL STUDENT is shown here with representatives of the Oklahoma Elks Association (left) and the Northeast Region Elks Association (right) as she accepts the award for the Northeast Region State Free-Throw Contest which was held in El Reno, March 14. Melissa is an eighth grader at Mason and she represented the Okmulgee Elks Lodge.

Mason Student Wins State Free-Throw Contest

Melissa Culley, eighth grader at Mason School and the daughter of Farron and Irene Culley represented the Okmulgee Elks Lodge for the northeast region in the state free-throw contest held at El Reno March 14.

Melissa won the contest and represented Oklahoma in a 4-State Regional free-throw contest held at Lawton on March 28. Melissa competed against the champions from New Mexico, Louisiana and Texas. Culley placed fourth in the contest and the winner advanced to the National contest which will be held at Indianapolis.

Melissa had to compete at Mason school to be eligible to shoot at Okmulgee for the local contest. She won there and went to Claremore for the districts where she won to qualify for the State contest. She received a trophy, medal,plaque and a jacket for winning the state championship.

Legislation Introduced to Stimulate Economic Development on Indian Land

Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii), Chairman of the Select on Indian Affairs, has introduced legislation intended to stimulate economic development on Indian reservations.

"Decades of federal spending programs have failed to break the cycle of poverty and despair on Indian Reservations nation-wide. It is time to strike out in a new direction and create institutions that will result in sustained, long-term economic progress" Sen. Inouye said.

In January, 1987, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) found an unemployment rate of 48% for Indians in their service area. In South Dakota, the overall unemployment rate estimated by the BIA was 74%. Some reservations had even higher unemployment rates - 82% on the Rosebud reservation, 84% on the Zuni Pueblo reservation and 86% on the Fort McDermit reservation in Nevada.

Inouye and Vice-Chairman Daniel Evans (R-Wash.) have scheduled a series of hearings in April to examine the the reasons for continuing unemployment and poverty among Indian people. The hearings will also address legislative proposals aimed at correcting these economic conditions.

The first hearing to be held April 9, 1987, will provide an overview of economic conditions in Indian Country. The Committee will evaluate barriers to economic development in Indian communities as well as explore steps which the Federal government should take to assist Indian businesses to overcome such barriers.

The second hearing scheduled for April 22, 1987, will focus on the Indian Finance Development Corporation Act, S. 721. Introduced by Senator Inouye on March 11, 1987, the legislation would provide for the economic development of Indian tribes by furnishing capital, financial services and technical assistance to Indian-owned business enterprises.

An oversight hearing to be held on April 29, 1987 will examine Section 8 (a) of the Small Business Act and proposed amendments to the Buy Indian Act and the Indian Finance Act. The 8 (a) program of the Small Business Administration (SBA) has been the principal mechanism for contracting with disadvantaged minority small businesses. The Buy Indian legislation, first enacted in 1910, was designed to assist Indian businesses in obtaining Federal government procurement contracts. The Indian Finance Act of 1974 provided for three major programs: the first program created a single revolving loan fund for direct loans to tribes; the second established guaranteed loans; the final program provided for grants to establish enterprises on or near reservations.

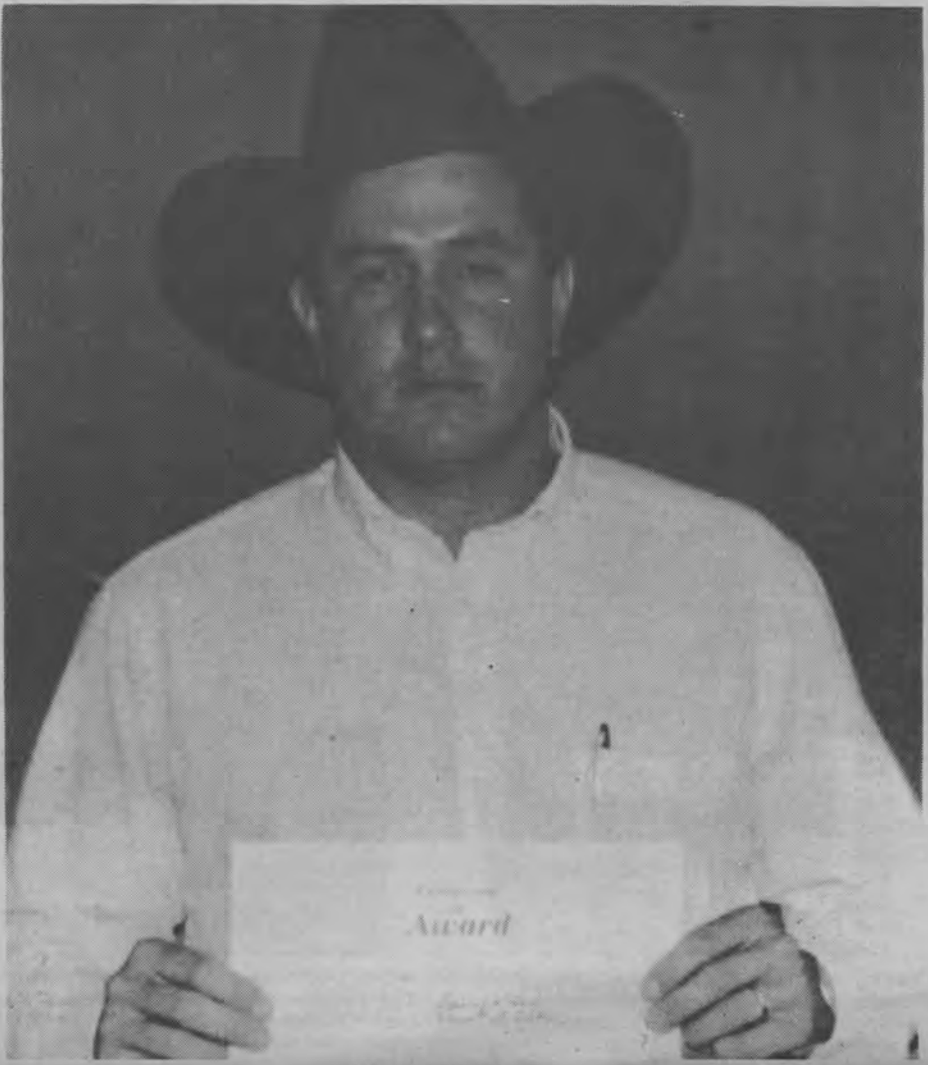
It is anticipated that hearings will be scheduled in the Finance Committee on the Indian Development Act of 1987, S. 788, sponsored by Senator John McCain (R-Arizona). In addition to enterprise zones the bill authorizes foreign trade zones on Indian reservations.

Senators Inouye and Evans expect these hearings to generate further legislative proposals aimed at addressing economic development problems in Indian country.

Co-Ed Softball Tourney...

There will be an Open Co-Ed Softball Tournament held at the Eufaula Eastside Ball Park on April 25-26. For more information about the Tournament, contact Chris Estep at 918-689-2976 or 689-9332.

Deadline is April 20 so enter now. There is a $65 entry fee.



Alan Murdaugh

Steer Wrestling Champ Receives Certificate of Award From Muscogee National Council

The National Council presented to Alan Murdaugh a Certificate of Award March 28, recognizing his efforts as Indian World Champion Steer Wrestler.

Alan is Creek and lives with his wife Donetta in Stuart Oklahoma. He has been a member of the Region Eight All-Indian Rodeo Association for two years and has been competing in rodeos for seven years. He won the Championship on a horse named "Molly."

24 year old Murdaugh was the Region Eight year end money winner with an average of 27.2 and average run of 6.4. This year was Alan's first year to the Indian National Finals. He stated that the competition was tough with 17 doggers from across the United States.

Alan has been a member of the CRRA and PRCA Associations .

His parents are Bud and Margaret (Deerisaw) Murdaugh of Mc Alester, Okla.

Alan extends a Thank You to the Creek National Council for the recognition.

ART UNDER THE OAKS

"ART UNDER THE OAKS" PROVIDES THE BACKDROP FOR THE TALLAHASSEE STOMP GROUND DANCERS, led by Thomas Yahola, as they performed on the Five Tribes Museum grounds during the First Annual "Art Under the Oaks" exhibit by the artists of the Five Tribes. An estimated 1,500-2,000 visitors gathered each day of the April 11-12 event to enjoy the art, stompdancing, storytelling by Woodrow Haney and other traditional Indian activities. The Annual Azalea Festival in Honor Heights Park coincided with the Exhibit, which will be an annual event, thanks to the funding support of Southwestern Bell, according to Museum spokesmen.

CREEK NATION HOSTED A HEADSTART TRAINING WORKSHOP the first of February which was funded by the nine Indian Headstart Projects scattered across five western states. The Leadership Capability Model Project (LCM) is a demonstration leadership development project created, according to Janet Lynn, CN Headstart Director, "to build a local training and leadership capability into the individual Head Start Programs." Weeklong residential workshops were held for 18 months. The last one was held at the Creek Nation. Those in attendance were; front, Janice Curry, LCM Director from Kensington, Maryland; left to right, Dolly Stone, Blackfeet, Browning, Montana, Glenda Lopez, Ute Mountain, Colorado, Caroline Ukestine; Pueblo of Zuni, New Mexico, Esther LittleWolf, Northern Cheyenne, Lame Deer, Montana, Vivian Wahtomy, Shoshone and Bannock, Fort Hall, Idaho, Babe Smith, Osage Nation of Oklahoma, Valerie Trujillo, Five Sandoval, Bernalillo, New Mexico, Phyllis St. John, Creek Nation, Eula Preston, Southern Ute, Ignacio, Colorado.

Denver is Site of National Indian Health Promotion Conference on Youth Set for May

Denver, Colorado will be the site of a national Indian health promotion conference on youth. The conference which is being sponsored by the University of Oklahoma will be held on May 26-29th, 1987 at the Executive Tower Inn in downtown Denver.

The title of the Indian health promotion conference is "Youth; Spiritual, Physical and Mental Fitness". Because the theme includes physical fitness, the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports will be supporting the event. Additional sponsors include the Indian Health Service and the Denver Indian Health And Family Services, Inc. (formerly the Denver Indian Health Board).

York Onnen, Director of Program Development at the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports stated, "There is a strong need for a conference of this nature. American youth need to develop exercise and fitness habits that will help them lead healthy adult lives." In addition to fitness presentations and workshops, other conference topics will include suicide prevention, innovative drug/alcohol youth programs, holistic and traditional approaches in working with youth and youth leadership skills training.

Several positive Indian role models such as Billy Mills, Al Waquie, Sam Claphan and others will speak at the conference emphasizing the importance of self-image for Indian youth fitness development.

A unique feature of the meeting will be the active participation by attendees in planned health promotion activities at the conference site. Volleyball, swimming, running, aerobics, stress management and other activities are included as part of the conference agenda. Billy Rogers, conference coordinator, stated "This will be the fourth annual Indian health promotion conference and according to past evaluations, the fitness/recreational activities are one of the more popular aspects of the conferences."

Cost of the conference is $85 if pre-registering and $95 for on-site registration. For more information, call or write Billy Rogers, Urban and Community Programs, University of Oklahoma, 555 Constitution, Norman, Oklahoma 73037. Telephone (405) 325-1711.

SMITH FAMILY REUNION

Families of the late James Smith, George Smith, Joe Smith, Jeffery Smith and William Smith will gather again on May 30, 1987 for a reunion.

The reunion will take place at the Middle Creek No.1 Baptist Church located 2 miles on Hwy. 9, west of Dustin. Turn south five or six miles on Lamar Road.

There will be games, prizes and plenty to eat. Relatives and friends are all invited. We had a great time last year. The reunion will begin at 9:00 a.m. We will be looking for you.

Reader Needs Ancestry Information...

I am in the process of searching for my ancestors and am having trouble locating information on my great-grandfather Robert Harris Walker. He was born about 1820 in Georgia in or near Putnam Co. He was married to Lucinda Keith on November 2, 1838 in Tallapoosa Co., Alabama. His parents names are unknown.

According to family tradition, his mother was Creek Indian princess. My only possible link is a very old photograph of my great-grandfather, James Nathaniel Walker, standing with an Indian lady and a man believed to be my great-great grandfather, Robert Harris Walker. Robert and Lucinda's children were; Benjamin Franklin Walker born in 1840, Tallapoosa, Ala., James Nathaniel Walker, 1842, Tallapoosa, John Walker, 1843, Tallapoosa and Rodolphus (Brown?) Walker, 1845 in Arkansas.

I have tried to find Robert Walker's parents for years through land records, etc., without success. I understand they followed the Creek movement to Kansas and or Oklahoma, but I have no evidence of this.

Tradition has it that they all served in the Civil War. James Nathaniel did and was captured and sent to a Union prison in Illinois and then sent out west but I have been unable to find the rest of the family.

Any information would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Edmonson
1305 E. Seminole
Springfield, MO 65804

Eyeglass Applications Accepted by CN Health

The Creek Nation Health Service Department will begin taking applications for eyeglasses on ***April 27th***, 1987 at the Creek Nation Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Health Service staff will take applications on a ***first-come, first-serve*** basis at the following locations from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.:

Monday, April 27, 1987-Creek Nation Capital Complex, Okmulgee, Okla.
Tuesday, April 28, 1987-Sapulpa Health Center, Sapulpa, Okla. Creek Nation Community Hospital, Okemah, Okla.
Wednesday, April 29, 1987-Coweta Community Building, Coweta, Oklahoma. Eufaul Health Center, Eufaula, Okla.
Thursday, April 30, 1987-Holdenville Community Building, Holdenville, Oklahoma. Tulsa Native American Coalition, Tulsa, Okla.
Friday, May 1, 1987-Muskogee Community Building, Muskogee, Okla.

Income guidelines will be those families with income less than 100% of the Federal Poverty Standards, which are available at the Creek Nation Health Service offices.

Applications will be taken only from those persons who furnish the following:

1. Proof of income by furnishing employer check stubs or copies of Federal and State checks received for retirement or welfare assistance benefits.
2. C.D.I.B. Card (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood).
3. Proof of residence within Creek Nation tribal boundaries such as mailing address on a utility bill and / or check stubs.
4. Priority will be given to those heads of household 60 years of age and older.

"Location to be confirmed."

John Richburg

Creek Heavy-Weight Wrestling Champion

John Richburg is a Creek sophomore heavy weight wrestler attending Labette College at Parsons, Kansas. He was Oklahoma State Champion in 1984 and state runner-up in 1985. For two consecutive years he has qualified for the National Junior College Athletic Championship, recently winning four straight matches to claim the All-American honor at the Association's meet held Feb. 28 in Chicago, Ill. This year's showing gave him a seasons record of 31-4-1. Richburg is a 1985 graduate of Sulpher High School. He is the son of David and Ruby Richburg of Sulpher and the grandson of the late Charley and Annie Tiger of Wetumka.

NCAI Release:

Indian Leaders Step Up Efforts To Remove BIA Head

Amid increasing opposition in Indian country and in Congress to policy plans of Interior Assistant Secretary Ross O. Swimmer, Indian leaders have intensified efforts to remove the banker, lawyer and former Chief from his post as head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). "He says he wants to teach us the lessons he learned as an elected tribal official," said National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) President Reuben A. Snake, Jr., "but he must have experienced the Reagan syndrome and forgot everything."

Since going on the BIA payroll in June of 1985, Swimmer has "sought to silence potential opposition and to adjust attitudes and leadership in Indian country through cash and poverty politics and disinformation," said NCAI Executive Director Suzan Shown Harjo. "With an iron fist and ham hand, Mr. Swimmer has tried to sell Indian property to private bidders and to disrupt tribal programs, turning Indian policy makers into crisis managers and presuming to usurp the prerogatives of Indian governments and Congress in the bargain."

Snake and Harjo applauded the leaders of seven Inland Empire Tribes who walked out on a March 30 meeting in Spokane, Washington, which was called by the BIA's Portland area office at Swimmer's direction as part of his nationwide attempt to prove to Congress that he has consulted with Indian leaders on his initiatives. Swimmer ordered the BIA line officers to call "consultation meetings" on short notice when his plans were rebuffed by the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee on March 12.

The seven Indian leaders issued a statement from an emergency caucus of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) after their walk-out, voicing "united opposition to the Ross Swimmer agenda" and citing his "attempt to restart" plans to turn over nearly $2 billion in Indian trust monies to a bank in Pennsylvania, to turn over the management of Indian owned forests to private companies and to turn over the BIA schools to states or third parties.

ATNI President Allen V. Pinkham, Sr., who also heads the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission and is an NCAI Vice President, said that the "Privatization would merely transfer the bureaucratic red tape of the Indian Bureau to private companies which are far removed from the Indians, rather than the BIA putting its own house in order." One by one, the tribal leaders stated for the record that they were not part of the consultation" and walked out of the meeting, prompting one BIA employee to remark that it was "the shortest meeting on record."

Chairman Michael Pablo of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes said, "With Swimmer, real consultation is non-existent," and Chairman Joe Flett of Spokane Tribe called the meeting "an attempt to coerce the local (BIA) agencies into supporting (Swimmer's) terminus policies." Chairman Mel Tonasket of the Colville Confederated Tribes called the policies "organized disorganization designed to confuse and divide tribes." Chairman Ernie Stensgar of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe said that "the small tribes especially still need the BIA" and that the "continuing fight to stop Swimmer is sapping the tribes."

Tonasket, a past President of NCAI, said that "Ross Swimmer himself is the real issue. Until we get rid of him, this fight will go on." Chairman Glen Nenema of the Kalispel Tribe and Chairman Ronald Abraham of the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho joined the other leaders "vowing" to do what they can "to achieve that objective." An emergency meeting of ATNI has been called for all its member tribes for April 2 and 3 in Spokane. ATNI was the first intertribal organization to call for Swimmer's removal in August of 1986, citing his lack of appreciation and respect for Indian cultural and traditional values.

In September of 1986, the NCAI membership at the 43rd Annual NCAI Convention called for Swimmer's resignation or removal, citing the initiatives known at the time and his "refusal to conduct more than superficial meetings with Indian and Native leaders."

Six months later, on March 24, Swimmer responded in writing to the NCAI Convention action, stating that he was "extremely disappointed" but "not surprised." He said that he "realized that this position had become unpopular for many reasons. Change does not come easily.

However, I did not seek this job and only after I was assured of the strong desire of this administration to try and help Indian people and tribes improve the quality of life on the reservation did I accept the challenge." He also stated, "Meaningful access and superficial meetings are terms used to describe hours and hours, days and days of meetings with nearly every tribal leader during the past year. I did accept the challenge of being the Assistant Secretary and Chief operating officer of the BIA. The Office of Assistant Secretary could be ceremonial and policymaking but I believed a 'hands on' approach could get more done."

In a March 20 hearing before the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Swimmer characterized his initiatives as "budget-driven" and that the budget was "directed by the tribes." He testified that tribes were "fully informed on every step that's happening" on the proposed transfer of trust funds, and that "we have consulted to the extent humanly possible." Regarding the proposed transfer of forestry management, he said that there is "no initiative on the table" and that he had withdrawn a February 11 request for a Solicitor's Opinion on the contractability of the forestry program, Swimmer said that he was "concerned that the forestry tribes make out better than other tribes" through a BIA "subsidy."

Swimmer told the Committee Members that his schools-transfer proposal was an effort to "get tribes involved in the education of their children" and that he had "changed the intent of 638" to use the self-determination contracting law to encourage tribal contracts. Representatives Bill Richardson (D-N—.M.) and Ben Nighthorse Campbell (D-Col.) noted that it is Congress that changes the intent of laws, not the Executive Branch. Swimmer also said that he would soon propose regulations for a flat fee in lieu of negotiated indirect cost rates for tribal contracts, and that "consultation will begin" with publication in the Federal Register.

NCAI Director Harjo, the only other witness at the March 20 hearing, took exception to the suggestion that tribes have not been involved in the education of their children and emphasized that there had been no consultation in Indian country on Swimmer's initiatives. She informed the Committee that the NCAI Executive Council on March 12 unanimously adopted a resolution reaffirming the 1986 Convention action, expressing a deepened lack of confidence in and urging and demanding the immediate resignation or removal of Swimmer as Interior Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. The second NCAI call for Swimmer's removal cited eight area of "further justification for this action;

1. "his decision, absent any consultation and despite promises to the contrary, to premise the FY1988 budget proposal for the BIA on a 15% flat fee in lieu of negotiated indirect costs rates for self-determination grants and contracts, and his decision to propose the elimination of the self-determination grants under section 104(a) of P.L. 93-638;

2. "his decision, absent any consultation in Indian country, to propose the transfer of the remaining BIA and BIA-funded schools to states and other third parties;

3. "his failure to exercise the fiduciary duties of his position with regard to the siting, transportation and clean-up of hazardous waste and nuclear waste, and his failure to advocate the interests of or to empower those Indian and Native peoples affected and potentially affected by hazardous and nuclear waste;

4. "his decision, absent any consultation with the Indian and Native governments and people with private property interests in the trust funds held by the BIA, to transfer $1.7 billion of Indian and Native trust funds and their management and investment to the Mellon Bank, and his attempts to characterize superficial briefings as consultation and his failure to provide requested legal advice, policy analysis and decision documents to the owners of these monies:

5. "his decision, absent any consultation, to impose a workfare system on Indian and Native governments and people, without considering such factors as lack of jobs in Indian country, lack of child-care systems, limited transportation and impact on tribal liability insurance;

6. "his decision, absent any consultation, to cut the forestry management program and to impose an administration fee for forestry management.

8. "his ongoing effort to encourage other federal agencies and the Office of Management and Budget to impose a ten-year plan in Indian country for the Indian and Native governments to contract BIA and other federal programs, at the same time encouraging and participating in efforts to reduce and eliminate the programmatic bases."

The NCAI resolution also calls upon Congress "to conduct hearings in Indian country for the purpose of developing with the Indian and Native peoples a legislatively mandated definition and plan of consultation on actions affecting Indian and Native peoples and their property and interest which would incorporate advocacy of the Indian and Native interest in Executive Branch daily dealings."

In an effort to halt a possible trouble spot by early public exposure, Harjo also called to the Committee's attention reports from a number of Indian leaders that Swimmer had approached them to be a part of a select group of between 12 and 24 "advisors" who would take his initiatives and work them through their tribes and the intertribal and national organizations, so that they return to the BIA from Indian country. It was said that Swimmer suggested use of the "model of criticizing him on the outside, while working for his initiatives on the inside."

On March 26, the House of Appropriations Committee approved the Interior Subcommittee's action to stop the Swimmer initiatives until the end of this fiscal year, September 30, by prohibiting use of FY1987 monies to implement them. The Committee Report states, "Bill language has been included which prohibits the Bureau from signing a contract which would result in the transfer of tribal and / or individual Indian trust funds to any private banking institution, until certain conditions have been met. These include completion of full accounting of the funds to be transferred under such a contract, and provision of this accounting to the affected tribes and / or individuals; and full consultation with the appropriate committees of Congress and the tribes as to terms of the proposed contract.

Bill Language has also been included prohibiting BIA from proceeding to implement any proposed initiatives which have not yet been reviewed or approved by the Congress. The examples of such initiatives cited in the language are the implementation of a flat fifteen per cent administrative fee on P.L. 96-638 tribal contractors, and imposition of tuition rates at Bureau post-secondary schools.

Examples of other such initiatives intended to be included under this language include any transfers of Bureau schools to tribal, local or State control (except where a tribe requests to contract to operate a Bureau school under a P.L. 93-638 contract); and implementation of the proposed 'economic self-assistance program. The Bureau is reminded that no action should be taken during fiscal year 1987 on any such proposed initiatives while Congress has the proposals under review. This means, for example, that clear instructions should go the BIA post-secondary schools that recruiting for 1987-88 students should note only that charging tuition has been proposed, but until and unless Congress approves such a change, there will continue to be no such charges imposed.

"The Committee also believes that the proposed change to a flat fifteen per cent administration fee for tribal contractors could have significant impacts on many contractors, and *wants to ensure that* adequate time is given for both the tribes and appropriate Committees of Congress to review the proposal, and the revised regulations now being prepared, before any such change is implemented."

In an unrelated manner, the Committee "directs that the Bureau provide, at a minimum, the same amount to the Council of Energy Resource Tribes in fiscal year 1987 as was provided in fiscal year 1986." Numerous tribes had asked the BIA to make monies available directly to them, so they would not have to go through an organization, and the BIA proposed to do this by cutting funds to the membership group. Non-member tribes now are asking Congress to provide funding directly to their governments, irrespective of the organization's funding level. Swimmer headed the group prior to assuming his position with the BIA

In other actions, the Committee disapproved the Administration's request to reprogram monies from the Community Health Representatives and Urban Health Programs to pay for Indian Health Service personnel raises, and provided funding to cover the salary increases. The Committee also prohibited the imposition of any personnel ceiling that would reduce the full-time equivalent level of the Indian Health Service.

The Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee has not set a date to mark up the FY 1987 Supplemental Appropriations bill. The Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs has taken strong positions supporting the recommendations from Indian country on the FY 1988 budget, urging the Senate Budget Committee to reject most of the Swimmer initiatives, and has requested Senate support for the House position on the FY1987 Supplemental Appropriations bill.

(NCAI continued on Page 14)

SWIMMER continued from Page 1...

Swimmer was dealt a blow in another area on February 10, when Representative Morris K. Udall (D-Ariz.) and Senator John Melcher (D-Mont.) wrote to Comptroller General of the United States Charles Bowsher, requesting that "General Accounting Office investigate and prepare a report on certain personnel practices and policies of the BIA." The letter stated that the House Interior Committee, which Udall chairs, "has been advised, both recently and within the past year, of certain BIA personnel actions which were taken in order to fill key headquarter positions and which have raised several questions on the adequacy of the Bureau's implementation of proper personnel procedures.

In addition to these concerns, there is the greater questions of the fulfillment of the BIA's responsibility to afford Indian preference in employment actions under 25 U.S.C. 472a." The pair said they have "received reports of personnel actions which have been instituted through organizational restructuring and which would not otherwise have been legal except for these organizationalchanges," and asked for a review to "dispel or clarify the Bureau's actions."

Even in Swimmer's home state, Oklahoma, Indian leaders have rejected his initiatives and called for him to resign. At the NCAI Convention in September of 1986, only the Cherokee Nation and Peoria Tribe among the Indian governments in Oklahoma supported Swimmer. On February 19, the United Indian Nations in Oklahoma (UINO) passed a resolution after meeting with Swimmer on his initiatives, demanding his immediate resignation or dismissal. UINO said that Swimmer "has ignored the attempts by the State of Oklahoma to intrude upon Indian Country in Oklahoma and infringe upon the tribes' rights to self-government," and cited his "failure to act on behalf of Oklahoma tribes' and to "fulfill the fiduciary responsibilities" and to "protect the tribes' right to self-government." UINO also said that Swimmer "has refused to truly consult with Indian Tribes" on his "harmful" initiatives, and that he "merely announces his singular decisions."

NCAI Anadarko Area Vice President Juanita Ahtone described the Swimmer meeting in Oklahoma to the NCAI Executive Council in March as "the oddest thing-here he was in his own state saying that his education initiative wouldn't affect us. When we pointed out our objection to any transfer of the Riverside Indian School, he thought it was in California."

UINO President John R. Thorpe, Chief of the Sac and Fox Tribes, carried the resolution to the NCAI Executive Council Meeting on behalf of the founding members of the organization: Absentee-Shawnee Tribe, Apache Tribe, Caddo Tribe, Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, Chickasaw Nation, Comanche Tribe, Delaware Tribe, Iowa Tribe, Kaw Tribe, Muscogee Nation, Otoe-Missouria Tribe, Ponca Tribe, Sac and Fox Tribes, Seminole Nation, Seneca and Cayuga Tribes, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, Tonkawa Tribe, Western Delaware Tribe and the Wyandotte Tribe.

On March 12 at the NCAI Congressional Awards Banquet, Swimmer was spoofed in the "Average Savage Review" by NCAI staff and friends, who performed quasi-original lyrics to well-known, tunes. The group donned a variety of hats and masks, to protect the identity of the unknown Average Savages, including large cardboard mounted blow-ups of Swimmer's face. The biggest laugh of the evening came when the honoree, Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hawaii) rose to deliver his speech and announced with great solemnity from behind a Swimmer mask, "I am not Ross Swimmer." Inouye, Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, later wrote to NCAI that the "performance of the Average Savage Review was not only entertaining but politically informative. I shall be mindful of its commentaries and sensitive to the charges that were so sweetly sung to me. I shall stand with you and be an advocate of your positions in the Congress.

The Average Savages sort of sang and danced the following to the tune of Stand By Me: "When the cuts are proposed / And the numbers cooked / And Sidney Yates is the only light we see / Make them testify / Catch them in a lie / Make them take the stand / Stand by me / Oh, Congress, Congress / Stand by me / Oh, Udall and Inouye / Do the Jim Wright thing / Stand by me / Oh, Udall and Inouye / Do the Jim Wright thing / Stand by me / When the funds we bank on / Are set to be slashed / And the programs to be cut to the core / Won't you Daschle their hopes / And raise McCain / Make them take the stand / Stand by me / Oh, Bradley, Bradley / Stand by me / Oh,Oh, Roe and Inouye / Do the Jim Wright thing / Stand by me / When the rights that we have / Are undercut / And our voices are not being heard / Won't you Kildee their plans / Give them the Robert Byrd / Just stand Pat, Mr. Williams / Stand by me / Oh, heavens, Evans / Stand by me / DeConcini and Inouye / Do the Jim Wright thing / Stand by me."

The Savages did repeats of their own favorites, Ross the Knife and Ronnie's Boys, adding new songs, including one from a 1986 Road Show, Don't Dump On Us, a number about radioactive nuclear waste to the the tune of Don't Fence Me In, and Alaska Native Blues to the tune of Summertime Blues, which began, "Gotta raise a fuss, gotta raise a holler / 'Bout selling ' out Alaska for the almighty dollar / In '71 Congress passed an act / The country needs the oil / so, the Natives get the shaft / Really makes you wonder what a person ought to do / 'Cause there ain't no cure for the Alaskan Native Blues.

The hands-down favorite of the BIA employees at the Banquet was sung to the tune of Where Have All the Flowers Gone: "Where have all the Indians gone / In the BIA / Where has Indian preference gone / When did it fade away / Where have all the Indians gone / White folks replaced them, every one / When will we ever earn / How will we ever earn / Where have Indian trust funds gone / In the BIA / Where have Indian contracts gone / When did they slip away / Where have indirect rates gone / The trustee's capped them, every one / When will we ever earn / How will we ever earn / Where has all our waste gone / Tell us, BIA / Where have all our royalties gone / When will MMS pay / Where have all our resources gone / White folks consumed them, every one / When will we ever earn / How will we ever earn."

Hey, Mister Lemon Bank Man (or Ross, the Banker) was sung to the tune of Hey, Mister Tambourine Man: "Hey Mister Lemon Bank Man / Stash some cash for me / I'm a trustee, but I got no place I'm goin' to / Hey, Mister Lemon Bank Man / Stash some cash for me / With the jingle-jangle minors' coins I'll deposit with you / I see this money empire as a part of a vast plan / 1.7 billion can / Assure my future in banking land / Far from the reach of any Indians' hands / Take it disappearin' down the lockbox of your vault / And, if you should default / It just won't be my fault / And Congress can't blame me for not consulting / And, if you should hear gnashin', thrashin' in the BIA / Pay no mind to what they say / Congress, let me have my way / Grant me this private sector day / Hey, Mister Lemon Bank Man / Stash some cash for me..."

FBI Files Now Available On AIM And Wounded Knee Occupation

EDITED BY ROLLAND DEWING,
Chairman of Social Sciences, Chadron State College

Now being published for the first time, this collection reproduces in their entirety the AIM and Wounded Knee files that were compiled and maintained by the FBI over a ten-year period (1969-1979) and that were released to Professor Rolland Dewey, the editor of this collection, under the Freedom of Information Act. Materials that the FBI is exempt from releasing and might have withheld include classified information, any materials "related solely to the internal rules and practices of the FBI", and materials that would "reveal the identity of a confidential source or reveal confidential information furnished only by the confidential source". Nevertheless, in over 26,000 pages of previously unreleased FBI files, researchers now have convenient access to the richest and most comprehensive collection of primary sources ever assembled on AIM and related topics.

The FBI files in this collection take researchers inside AIM and, on a broader level, provide a documentary portrait of a decade of intense political activism throughout the nation. The records follow AIM from its inception as a local Indian-support organization to its peak of national prominence and then to its slow demise after Wounded Knee. Over 26,000 pages of FBI reports, interviews, communications, and analyses present a day-to-day inner history of AIM-its organizations, its leaders, its activities, its network of supporters, and its climatic confrontation with federal officials at Wounded Knee. In addition, since the FBI took special interest in the many groups and organizations that were sympathetic to AIM, these files provide invaluable insights into the operations of the New Left during the 1970's. Finally, the AIM and Wounded Knee files illuminate the policies and activities of the FBI during the yeqrs just before and after the death of J. Edgar Hoover-a period marked by often severe criticism from outside the Bureau and increasingly frequent dissent from within. Giving researchers a wealth of detail on these subjects, THE FBI FILES ON THE AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT AND WOUNDED KNEE makes an important contribution to our understanding of one of the most turbulant eras in American history.

Formed in the heated political atmosphere of 1968, the American Indian Movement (AIM) quickly expanded well beyond its roots in Minnesota and broadened its political agenda to include a searching analysis of the nature of social justice in America.

Under the leadership of Dennis Banks and Clyde Bellecourt, AIM developed into a national vehicle for protest during the Nixon administration. Calling for the reorganization of the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and for strict observance of past treaties between American Indians and the U.S. government, AIM took an activist and increasingly militant stance in support of its claims.

In 1972, to dramatize their demands, AIM members occupied the BIA building in Washington, D.C. The following year, in a protest that gained worldwide attention, about 200 AIM militants seized the village of Wounded Knee, an Oglala hamlet on the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota, and waged what came to be known as the "Second Battle of Wounded Knee."

On the same reservation, in 1975, a shoot-out took the lives of two FBI agents; this episode led to the largest manhunt in FBI history and, eventually, to the indictment of four AIM members on murder charges.

Behind the occasionally violent history of the American Indian Movement lie issues of national importance and political complexity. Now published for the first time, *THE FBI FILES ON THE AMERICAN INDIAN MOVEMENT AND WOUNDED KNEE* provide detailed information on the evolution of AIM, and on the activities of the FBI in response to the growing strength of AIM.

Begun in 1969 and completed in 1979, the FBI file includes 18,000 pages of history and internal organization of AIM, on its role in the civil rights movement and the politics of the New Left, and on the widespread network of government surveillance that monitored AIM activities. A separate file on Wounded Knee contains over 8,000 pages of FBI material that detail the 71-day occupation as well as events preceding and following the seige.

During the course of its surveillance of network of information concerning the organization's leadership, its policies, and its strategy. (*One important FBI source was Douglass Durham, AIM's top security officer and Dennis Bank's personal pilot.)*

All of the personalities, events, and organizations that were involved with AIM receive detailed coverage in these files. In particular, the FBI monitored AIM's network of support groups, such as the Black Panthers, Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Venceremos, Students for a Democratic Society, LaRaza Unida Party, Workers Student Alliance, and the October League. The FBI also traced the sources for almost one million dollars of AIM support.

Within several months of the organization's initial success in the Saint Paul-Minneapolis area, AIM-inspired demonstrations and takeovers proliferated throughout the country.

For an entire decade the files in this collection supply details on every such incident of any consequence involving AIM, just a few of which are mentioned here: *AIM's successful intervention in the town of Gordon, Nebraska, to protest the death of Raymond Yellow Thunder at the hands of four white men in February 1972; the "Trail of Broken Treaties" movement that culminated in the occupation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C., in November 1972; AIM's attempt to gain control of the Pine Ridge Reservation in early 1973, which led to the occupation of Wounded Knee; the riot at Custer, South Dakota, in February 1973 that led to prison terms for both Dennis Banks and Russell Means; the shooting of Clyde Bellecourt by fellow AIM leader Carter Camp in August 1973; and attempts, after the Wounded Knee takeover, to hold national AIM conventions in Oklahoma, South Dakota, and New Mexico.*

* * * *

Ordering information: The FBI Files on the American Indian Movement and Wounded Knee. 35mm microfilm (26 reels) with printed guide. Price: $1,750. ISBN 0-89093-989-6. Available now. Discount: Order by April 30, 1987, and receive a discount of ten percent. Kindly direct all orders to: University Publications of America Dept. B-FBI287, North Market Street, Fredrick, MD 21701. Call toll free 1-800-692-6300.

QUARTERLY SESSION: JANUARY 31, 1987

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following minutes are yet to be approved by the National Council. The MNN elected to print the minutes subject to correction by the Council. In the event corrections are authorized, we will reprint only those portions of the minutes that have been changed.

INVOCATION: Mrs. Lilly Cox
CALL TO ORDER: Kenneth Childers, Second Speaker
ROLL CALL: A quorum was declared with 22 members present 16 were absent and the Speaker declared that any and all business transacted during this session to be valid and entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws. The roll call was as follows: Those absent were: Bible, Buck, Buck, Roberts, Hardridge, and Foster.
READING OF MINUTES: The floor was opened for the discussion or approval of the December 11th Special Session, December 20th. Regular Scheduled Session and the January 15, 1987 Special Session. A motion was made by Dunson and seconded by Stacy to approve the minutes. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: 21 in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried. The minutes were approved as read and shall be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.
STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS: was given by Claude A. Cox, Principal Chief himself.
"This message was ran in last months issue of the Muscogee Nation News.
ORDER OF BUSINESS:
1. OLD BUSINESS: VETO MESSAGE RETURNING NCA 86-73 TULSA URBAN CREEK ACT. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Cleghorn to suspend the reading of this veto message, due to the fact that previous legislation has been taken. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty one in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried. The veto stands as veto.
NEW BUSINESS:
1-C A Bill proposing amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Bill was introduced by request of Betty Foster; assigned to the Special Select Committee on Constitutional Amendments. Section 101. Subject to the provisions of Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection as in the manner provided by law, the following proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation: (1) Shall Article VI Section 2 be amended to read as follows: All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with (3) representatives from each of the Tulsa, Okmulgee, and McIntosh Districts; (2) from each of the Creek, Okfuskee, Hughes/Seminole, Muskogee and Wagoner/Rogers/Mayes Districts. (2) Shall Article VI Section 5(a) be amended to read as follows: The Muscogee (Creek) National Council member shall, at stated times, receive for their services a fixed compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which they shall have been elected, and said compensation shall be prescribed by Ordinance and paid out of the Treasury of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. **Section 102.** The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitutional Amendments as set forth in Section 101 of this Ordinance shall be the following form:

BALLOT TITLE

National Council Referendum No.
THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

Shall the Constitutional Amendments amending Section 2 of Article VI and Section 5(a) of Article VI be approved by the people.

SHALL THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS BE APPROVED?

(1) Shall Article VI Section 2 be amended to read as follows:
All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council which shall consist of one (1) House with (3) representatives from each of the Tulsa, Okmulgee, and McIntosh Districts; (2) from each of the Creek, Okfuskee, Hughes/Seminole, Muskogee and Wagoner/Mayes/Rogers Districts.

☐ YES, For the Amendment
☐ NO, Against the Amendment

(2) Shall Article VI Section 5 (a) be amended to read as follows: The Muscogee (Creek) National Council member shall, at stated times, receive for their services a fixed compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which they shall have been elected, and said compensation shall be prescribed by Ordinance and paid out of the Treasury of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

☐ YES, For the Amendment
☐ NO, Against the Amendment

The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Wheeler to postpone legislative action on the Bill (1-c) and return it to Committee. Discussion: Mr. Hale recommended that this Bill be returned to the Committee of the whole so all members of the Council could have input. Question: Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty one in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried: Bill 1-C was returned to Committeee for further review.
ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION: NONE
QUARTERLY REPORTS: The Quarterly reports were given by Gary Breshears, Executive Director. Buddy York, Director of Tribal Affairs was in attendance to give a detail report on the construction of the Eufaula Community Center. (by written request of Frank Kamp). Mr. Robert Y. Davis, Controller for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was requested to attend this Quarterly Session to give a full financial report. (Written request of Frank Kamp). However, Mr. Davis was not in attendance. Gary Tarter, Hospital Administrator was in attendance to give a complete and full report on the affairs of the Hospital (by written request). Mark Downing, Director of Community Services was also in attendance as well as other management staff. Mr. William E. Foster, was in attendance and gave a report on the affairs of the Bingo and Law related cases. Mr. Harley Little requested that Gary Breshears be recognized for his hard work and efforts in the co-ordination of the tribal programs and asked the Council to show their appreciation (by applause).

OTHER BUSINESS:
A letter of Support from the National Council expressing their support of the endeavors of the Haskell Alumni in opposing the proposal being submitted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs concerning the Haskell Junior College in Lawrence, Ks. Martha Houle was introduced to give this presentation. The Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Little and seconded by Primeaux to add this item to the agenda for consideration. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Sixteen, in favor, none against and one abstention, abstaining was Stacy. Motion carried. The discussion of the resolution and or a letter of support was added to the agenda for consideration. A motion was made by Primeaux and seconded by Little to direct the Secretary to develop a "Letter of Support" in behalf of the National Council. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken, with the results being: Thirteen in favor, two abstentions those being: Wilson and Stacy. Motion Carried. A letter of Support will be drafted as requested.
ANNOUNCEMENTS: Planning Session, February 19, 1987 at 6:00 p.m. Committee Meeting: Community Service 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, 1987.
ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Dunson and seconded by Primeaux to adjourn. By a unanimous decision the meeting adjourned.

SPECIAL SESSION: MARCH 12, 1987

CALL TO ORDER: Carney Roberts, the Speaker advised that he had received a letter requesting a Special Session. The letter contained the required signatures and the agenda is a letter concerning the Constitutional Amendments Ordinance approved by the National Council on February 29, 1987.
ROLL CALL: A quorum was declared with twenty-two members present and six absent. The Speaker declared that all business transacted during this session to be valid and entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such. Those absent during this session were: Bible, Clark, Hardridge, Dunn, Primeaux and Williams.
ORDER OF BUSINESS:
The Speaker read the following letter:

March 12, 1987
Claude A. Cox
Principal Chief
Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation reads as follows: (1) Passage of an Amendment ordinance before the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall require two-thirds(2/3) affirmative vote and thereafter. (2) A two-thirds affirmative vote of the eligible voters who vote in a special election called for said purpose by the Principal Chief pursuant to the rules and regulations that the Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall prescribe. (b) It shall be the duty of the Principal Chief to set such an election date at the request of a majority of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council within thirty (30) calendar days.

On February 28, 1987, the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation passed, by the required (2/3) majority, Bill 2-1 titled: A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. As required in Section 1. (b) the majority of the National Council hereby request that you adhere to Section 1. (b) thereby fulfulling your duties as Principal Chief, and set an election date within thirty calendar days for the purpose of allowing the registered voters fo the Muscogee (Creek) Naiton their constitutional right of accepting or rejecting the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Provisions of Article VI, Section 6 (a) (b) (c) are not applicable in the case of a "Bill" proposing constitutional amendments because of the fact that such a "Bill" will not determine the policy of the Muscogee (Creek) Naiton by either the Executive Branch of Legislative Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Rather, the policy of the Nation will be determined by the Citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The letter having been read. the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Fox to send the letter to the Principal Chief. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Thirteen in favor, seven against and one abstention. Voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Cleghorn, Foster, Dunson, Little, McIntosh, Thomas, Stacy, and Wheeler. Voting No were: Buck, Buck, Chupco, Larney, Hale, Johnson, and Miller, abtaining was Wilson. Motion carried. The letter will be sent to the Principal Chief. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Johnson to adjourn. By unanimous decision the meeting adjourned.

REGULAR SCHEDULED SESSION: FEBRUARY 28, 1987 -

INVOCATION: Helen Chupco
CALL TO ORDER: Carney Roberts Speaker
ROLL CALL: A quorum was declared with twenty seven members present at the time of roll call; one member was late in arriving. The Speaker declared a quorum and all business transacted during this session to be valid and shall be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws. The roll call was as follows:
ORDERS OF BUSINESS:
7-B A Bill Confirming the Appointment of Stephen H. Foster to serve as a Justice of the Supreme Court. Chairman, Stacy reported, "The Bill was being placed on the Agenda and presented to the full Council with a recommendation of a "DO NOT PASS". Reasons for this recommendation was in view of the three opinions received regarding the blood quantum of citizens to serve on any Board and Authorities, as he is less than one-quarter. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: fifteen against, ten in favor, no abstentions: Voting Yes were: Bear, Buck, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Johnson, Foster, Hale, Miller and Wheeler. Voting No were: Dunn, Dunson, Barnett, Bible, Cleghorn, Larney, Kamp, Hardridge, Fox, Primeaux, Little, McIntosh, Stacy, Thomas and Williams. Motion did not carry, Bill 7-B was not approved and shall be recorded as such.
NEW BUSINESS:
2-A A Bill of the Muscogee Nation Amending Tribal Ordinance NCA 86-26 the Tribal Contracting Ordinance. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll

(MINUTES continued on page 16)

FEBRUARY 28 MINUTES CONTINUED...

call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-Seven in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried Bill 2-A was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

2-B A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TRIBAL ORDINANCE NCA 86-49 THE TRIBAL BUDGET FOR FY 87. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty four in favor, two against, those voting against were: McIntosh and Thomas. Motion carried Bill 2-B was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

2-C A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING NCA 86-55 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROPRIATING TRIBAL FUNDS FOR THE FY 87 FISCAL YEAR TRIBAL WELFARE AND SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAM. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty five in favor, one against and no abstentions, voting against was, McIntosh. Motion carried, Bill 2-C was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

2-D A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION PROGRAMMING, AUTHORIZING AND IDENTIFYING THE WELFARE AND TRIBAL BURIAL PROGRAM DOCKET 275/9977/2618. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty six in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried Bill 2-D was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

2-E A BILL MAKING SPECIFIC ASSURANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE 1987 APPLICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty five in favor, one against and no abstentions. Voting no was Stacy. Motion carried Bill 2-E was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

2-F A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE TRIBAL ORDINANCE NCA 81-82 ESTABLISHING REGULAR AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS LAWS". Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken the results being: ten in favor, sixteen against and no abstentions: Voting Yes were: Bear, Buck, Buck, Clark, Johnson, Hale, Foster, Larney, Miller, and Wheeler; voting no were: Barnett, Bible, Childers, Cleghorn, Kamp, Fox, Hardridge, Dunn, Dunson, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas, and Williams. Motion did not carry, the amendment was not approved. Upon a motion duly made and seconded to approve Bill 2-F as read, the Chair called for the Question. A roll call vote was taken with the results being: sixteen in favor, ten against and one abstention. Voting Yes were: Barnett, Bible, Childers, Cleghorn, Kamp, Hardridge, Dunson, Dunn, Little, McIntosh, Stacy, Primeaux, Thomas, Williams and Wilson. Voting No were: Buck, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Johnson, Foster, Hale, Miller and Wheeler. Abstaining was Bear. Motion carried Bill 2-F an Amendment to the Election Code was approved as read.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:
A motion was made by Bible and seconded by Dunson to place items 2-G and 2-O on the agenda for consideration during this session. Upon a motion having been made and seconded, a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty six in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, Items for consideration will be added to the agenda.

2-G A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING & PROGRAMMING THE FY-87 JUDGEMENT FUNDS/SOCIAL WELFARE FOR THE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM AND UTILITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty four in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, the amendment was approved as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded for the approval of Bill 2-G as amended a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty four in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried Bill 2-G was approved as amended and shall be recorded as such.

* **AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA:** A motion made by Wheeler and seconded by Little to move Bill 2-N from the bottom of the agenda to the top and take consideration on it at this time. Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty four in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, Bill 2-N was to be considered at this time.

2-N A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURES OF BINGO REVENUE FUNDS ACCOUNT TO ESTABLISH AN ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM AT THE BRISTOW COMMUNITY CENTER SITE. The bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. Amendment # 1 A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Primeaux to include the budget and proposal as a part of their Bill. Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty two in favor, one against, no abstentions. Voting no was Stacy. Motion carried, Amendment no. 1 was approved as read and shall be recorded as such. Amendment no. 2 A motion was made by Wheeler and seconded by Foster to amend the Bill at section 102 by changing the budget time limit to March 1, 1987 to October 31, 1987 and change the dollar figure to $11,799.00 Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: nineteen in favor, three against, and one abstention, * **VOTING RECORDED INCORRECT.** Motion carried Amendment no. 2 was approved as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded for the approval of Bill 2-N a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty three in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, Bill 2-N was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

2-H A BILL REPEALING PREVIOUS ORDINANCES AND THE GUIDELINES RELATING TO TRIBAL JUDGEMENT FUNDS/SOCIAL WELFARE: AND PROGRAMMING THE FY 87 TRIBAL JUDGEMENT FUNDS/SOCIAL WELFARE FOR BURIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES. The bill 2-H having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Larney and seconded Williams to approve the Bill as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Amendment no. 1 A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Stacy to amend the Bill at Section 104 (A) (1) (b) by deleting the word "maximum". Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: eight in favor, fifteen against and no abstentions. Voting no were: Buck, Clark, Childers, Johnson, Larney, Dunson, Foster, Fox, Hale, Hardridge, Little, McIntosh, Wheeler, Williams, and Wilson; voting yes were: Cleghorn, Barnett, Bear, Kamp, Thomas, Primeaux and Williams. Motion carried, Amendment no. 1 was not approved. Upon a motion having been made and seconded for the approval of bill 2-H a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty three in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried, BIll 2-H was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

2-I A BILL PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION. The bill having been read the chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Primeaux to approve the Bill 2-I as read. Discussion was held. Amendment no. 1 a motion was made by Hale and seconded by Wilson to amend Section 101 by keeping the original formula and changing the 1,000 figure to 3,000. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: eight in favor, fifteen agianst and no abstentions. Motion did not carry, Amendment no. 1 did not pass. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded for the approval of 2-I a roll call vote was taken with the results being; ten in favor, thirteen against and no abstentions. Voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Cleghorn, Johnson, Hale, Larney, Williams and Wilson; voting no were: Clark, Fox, Foster, Dunson, Hardridge, Kamp, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas, and Wheeler. Motion carried Bill 2-I was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

2-J A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING AN ATTORNEY CONTRACT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE NATION AND SHERRIN WATKINS, ATTORNEY AT LAW. The Bill having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Little and seconded by Clark to approve the Bill as read. Upon a motion made and seconded a roll call vote was taken the results being: twenty in favor, two against and one abstention. Voting no were; Primeaux, and Thomas, abstaining was: Kamp. Motion carried Bill 2-J was approved as read.

2-k A BILL CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF NED HODGE. The bill having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Johnson to approve the Bill as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Amendment no. 1 A motion was made by Thomas and seconded by Primeaux to postpone this Bill until the nominee could be present with documents. Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: four in favor, nineteen against and no abstentions. Voting no were: Barnett, Bear, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Childers, Larney, Kamp, Johnson, Hardridge, Hale, Foster, Fox, Dunson, Little, McIntosh, Wheeler, Williams and Wilson. Voting yes were: Primeaux, Stacy and Thomas. Motion did not carry, the amendment was not approved. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded for the approval of Bill 2-K a roll call vote was taken with the results being: seventeen against, six in favor and no abstentions. Voting no were: Barnett, Bear, Buck, Childers, Chupco, Clark, Kamp, Larney, Hardridge, Fox, Foster, Hale, Dunson, Little, McIntosh, Wheeler, Williams and Wilson, voting yes were: Cleghorn, Primeaux, Stacy and Thomas. Motion did not carry. The amendment was not approved. Upon a motion having been made and seconded for the approval of Bill 2-K a roll call vote was taken with the results being: seventeen against, six in favor, no abstentions. Voting no were: Barnett, Bear, Dunson, Little, McIntosh, Childers, Cleghorn, Fox, Kamp, Hardridge, Wilson, Williams, Wheeler, Thomas, Stacy, Primeaux, and Larney. Voting yes were: Clark, Chupco, Buck, Foster, Johnson, and Hale. Motion did not carry, bill 2-k was not approved and shall be recorded as such.

2-L A BILL CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF CHINNUBBIE McINTOSH TO SERVE AS A DISTRICT JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION. The bill having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Foster and seconded by Williams to approve the Bill 2-L as read. Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Sixteen against, four in favor, one abstention. Voting no were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Cleghorn, Larney, Kamp, Fox, Dunson, Hardridge, McIntosh, Primeaux, Stacy, Thomas, Wheeler, Williams and Wilson, voting yes were: Buck, Chupco, Clark, Johnson, and Hale, abstaining were: Foster, and Little. Motion did not carry, Bill 2-L was not approved and shall be recorded as such.

2-M A BILL CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF JAMES BRIAN TO SERVE AS A JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT. The bill having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Johnson to approve Bill 2-M as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: sixteen against, five in favor, two abstentions. Voting No were: Barnett, Bear, Dunson, McIntosh, Childers, Fox, Kamp, Larney, Cleghorn, Hardridge, Primeaux, Thomas, Stacy, Wheeler, Williams, and Wilson. Voting yes were: Buck, Chupco, Clark, Johnson, Hale, abstaining were: McIntosh and Foster. Motion did not carry. Bill 2-M was not approved and shall be recorded as such.

2-0 A BILL AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUNDS TO THE EUFAULA INDIAN COMMUNITY. The Bill 2-O having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Cleghorn to approve the Bill as read. Discussion was entertained and held. The Speaker advised that this Bill had not gone through the Committee System, however Mr. Kamp had requested a Special Session to act on this item prior to this meeting, and having obtained the required signatures to call for the Special Session, he had allowed this Bill be placed on the agenda under the items for consideration and it was also included in the motion to place this item on the agenda for consideration. A motion was made by Chupco and seconded by Johnson to send this Bill to Committee and follow the Committee Review procedures. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Sixteen against, five in favor, no abstentions: Voting no were: Barnett, Bear, Buck, Childers, Larney, Cleghorn, Kamp, Fox, Hale, Little, McIntosh, Stacy, Williams, Wheeler and Wilson. Voting yes were: Chupco, Clark, Johnson, Foster, and Dunson. The motion to send it to committee did not carry. The bill will be considered during this session. Back to the original motion for the approval of 2-O. Upon a motion having been duly made by Kamp and seconded by Cleghorn, to approve the Bill 2-O a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Nineteen in favor, none against and one abstention, that being: Chupco. Motion carried. Bill 2-O was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

OTHER BUSINESS: Planning Session, scheduled for March 12, 1987 at 6:00 p.m.

Announcements: Reports, Etc. Mr. Tarter, the Hospital Administrator had been requested to attend this meeting, however he called prior to this meeting advising that he could not attend due to illness. David Bryant, Comptroller/Treasurer for the Muscogee Nation was in attendance to answer questions regarding the financial affairs of the Nation.

Mr. Van McIntosh was requested to attend this meeting but was unable to attend.

ADJOURNMENT: By unanimous agreement, the meeting adjourned.

NATIONAL COUNCIL QUARTERLY MEETING
Saturday, April 25, 1987, 10:00 AM
MOUND AUDITORIUM

(Agenda Review, Council Chambers, 9:00 AM)

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"Continuing Progress For The Muscogee People"

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 5 May 1987 Issue 16 Pages

***THE CREEK NATION CHAPTER OF THE VEV INTER-TRIBAL ASSOCIATION** have been cleaning the grounds for their Memorial Day Ceremony to pay tribute to their brothers who were lost to the Viet Nam War. A flag with a certificate showing it has flown over our Nation's Capitol on April 1, 1987 was donated to them by U.S. Senator Nickles. Shown are (l-r) Willie Haney; Jim Burgess, Chapter Secretary; Wesley Dunn; Jimmy Jones; Barton Williams, Commander; John T. McIntosh, Vice-Commander; George Whitman; and, Otis Dunn.*

13th Annual Creek Festival June 19-20-21

Plans are being finalized for the 13th Annual Creek Festival and Rodeo to be held at the Creek Nation in Okmulgee, June 19, 20 and 21. The Creek Nation Olympics will begin the activities for the Festival on the morning of June 19 at the Harmon Stadium. In the past, teams from different areas of the country have participated in the Olympics.

The Creek Nation Softball Tournament will begin the evening of the 19. This year the tournament will host 72 teams. There will be 48 men's Indian fastpitch teams and 24 open women's slow pitch teams from throughout the southwest. Participants in the men's tournament must be 1/4 degree Indian.

Also, at 1 p.m. the judging of the Creek Nation Rodeo Queen will be taking place located at the Creek Nation Rodeo grounds. The contestants will be judged on their Horsemanship, Personality and Appearance. This starts on the 19th also. That night at 8:00 p.m. the rodeo will begin, Saturday night at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday afternoon starting at 2:00 p.m. because of the anticipation of the record number of participants. Contestants of the rodeo must be 1/4 degree Indian. Indian cowboys from throughout the United States and Canada participate in the annual event.

The tennis, golf, horseshoe and volleyball tournaments begin on the morning of the 20th. All of the tournaments will be held at the Creek Nation omni-plex with the exception of the tennis and golf tournaments. The tennis tournament will be held at the City of Okmulgee tennis courts near the omni-plex. The golf tournament will be held at Fountainhead golf course located in the Eufaula area.

There will be arts and crafts and concession booths available for the duration of the Festival. For more information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447, or call (918) 756-8700.

CN OLYMPICS

The Creek Nation of Oklahoma announces the Eleventh Annual Creek Nation Olympics. Your tribe or community is cordially invited to attend this Festivity to be held in conjunction with the Annual Creek Nation Festival. The Creek Nation Olympics will be held June 19, 1987.

Eligibility: Members of any Indian tribe between the ages of 6-15 years, who are 1/4 or more degree Indian blood quantum. All participants will be required to show proof of Indian blood, please attach copy to registration form.

Registration: To enter events simply complete the registration form with medical consent form signed by parent or guardian and return it to COORDINATOR, CREEK NATION OF OKLAHOMA, P.O. BOX 580, OKMULGEE, OK, 74447, no later than June 5, 1987. All entries received after this date will not be accepted. In the event an emergency arises, and changes are necessary, they must be make at Coaches meeting at 8:00 A.M., June 19, 1987. The events will begin at 9:00 A.M.

General Rules: A contestant may enter no more than two (2) individual events and one (1) relay.

Divisions will be according to age and sex with exception of Mixed Relays. 400 Mixed Relays (2 Male, 2 Females) Females 1st and 3rd legs.

All participants must show certified proof of age when registering the Olympics. This proof may be a birth certificate, school record, etc.

Consent Form: The consent is on the bottom of the registration form. It will be the responsibility of the individual participant to have their parent or guardian sign this statement giving consent for emergency medical treatment in case of an accident involved during the contest.

(See FESTIVAL story on Page 5)

Creek Viet Nam Vets Will Honor Indian Military Lost to War

By Helen Chalakee

The Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Chapter of the Viet Nam Era Inter-Tribal Association will conduct a special Memorial Day ceremony to pay tribute to the Indian military who were killed in action, prisoners of war or missing in action in the Viet Nam War from 1959 through 1975.

The ceremony will take place, May 25- 2:00 p.m., at the newly proposed building site for the Creek Chapter Veteran Center located one mile south of Okmulgee on Highway 75 (old Oakdale School site).

A special invitation is extended to the families and friends of those lost to the war. Barton Williams, Creek Chapter Commander, states, "It is with deep respect that we extend to you this invitation. As Viet Nam era veterans, it is difficult to express our feelings, but we realize the need to pay long overdue homage to those who have sacrificed so much. The loved ones we lost in Southeast Asia will not be forgotten, and the honor they and their families deserve will be acknowledged during the dedication ceremony for the new center."

A casuality list of 39 names from tribes across Oklahoma will be read at the ceremony. If for some reason a name has been left off the list which was obtained from the U.S. military, please contact Commander Williams or try to arrive early the day of the ceremony and give him the information, or you may call the information in to the Creek Communication Center 918/756-8700 extension 312 or write Creek Chapter VEV Inter-Tribal Association, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447.

-See Related Story Page 3-

CN Golf Tournament Set for Fountainhead

The Creek Nation Festival Golf Tournament will be held June 20th and 21st at the Fountainhead State Park Golf Course. The qualifying rounds will be June 20th. Tee times will be Saturday starting at 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tee times may be reserved by calling the course at 918-689-3209.

Flight/Senior - Championship - A-B-C-D-Women. Entry fee is $40 (Includes green fees).

For more information contact: Rick Kelly 918-756-8700 ext 253, or Steve Kordis, 918-689-3209. Motel information: LaDonna Motel, 918-473-2376, Fountainhead Lodge, 1-800-345-6343.

MNN Needs Your Senior Photos...

ALL SENIORS! Send your photos in to the MNN and a brief paragraph about yourself and your future plans upon graduation for a special feature in the Muscogee Nation News. Send the photo and paragraph to: Muscogee Nation News, PO Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. They will be in the June issue.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a montly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $6.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements. Address: P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447.

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EMPLOYMENT

PERSONNEL SPECIALIST
PERSONNEL SERVICES

Salary Range: Negotiable
Geographical Location: Creek Nation Tribal Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.
Job Duties: Accomplish basic personnel assignments to include computation of timecards and leave. Perform orientations and maintain personnel data and resulting files.

Prepare and process insurance claims and billings and maintain employee insurance claim and payment files. Notify employees of benefits and payments to employees.

Process personnel action requests including fringe benefits, hiring notices, payroll deductions, transfers, terminations, salary adjustments, and other transactions. Perform other duties as assigned.

Job Qualifications: High School Diploma plus college hours in business or related field. Knowledge of insurance legalities and procedures. Knowledge and experience in personnel policies and procedures. Exceptional skill with business machines and computers. Indian preference.
Closing date: Until filled.
Contact: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Personnel Services, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447, 918/756-8700.

—Eyeglasses Notice—

The Creek Nation Community Health Office still has applications available for elderly persons needing eye glasses. Applications remain for the following districts: Creek, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Tulsa and Wagoner. Guidelines for participating in this program include; Must be within income guidelines, possess a CDIB card, live within the Creek Nation boundaries, and be 60 years of age or over. For more information, telephone the Creek Nation Health Office.

Wacoche Family Reunion—

Ancestors of the late Alex Wacoche (9048) and Rachel Willingham (1358). of Eufaula, which includes the families of Rev. Willie Wacoche, Johnson Wacoche (the only one living) and Melissa Lindsay, Mary Francis, will be holding a family reunion at the Wacoche Hall, Bacone College, Muskogee on Saturday, May 30 at 10:00 a.m. Activities include; horseshoe pitching, volleyball, softball games, and of course delicious food. We look forward to seeing all for a good old get-together. Contact Jean Wacoche Berryhill (918) 756-8619 or Watie Wacoche (918) 456-5968.

MEMORIAL DAY FASTPITCH TOURNAMENT SCHEDULED

A fastpitch tournament has been scheduled for May 23-24 at the Creek Nation Sports Omniplex in Okmulgee. The deadline for entry is May 19. Trophies will be awarded for First and Second Place individual, third place team, and sportsmanship. For more information contact Kay Willie or Rick Wolf, 756-8700.

10th Annual Youth & Elders Conference Set June 10 - 13 at Okemah Roundhouse

By Helen Chalakee

The 10th Annual Youth and Elders Conference held at Phillip Deere Round House is scheduled for June 10-13, according to Phillip's daughter Chumona (Hokte) Deere. Since the death of Phillip a year and a half ago, his family has attempted to keep the yearly conference going and successfully arranged the one last year. Hokte said her Dad had always made all the arrangements in the past so coordinating the conference was a new experience for the family.

Last year's conference drew an estimated 250 people. She said several survival schools are expected to attend this year as well as Elders from various tribes across the nation.

Hokte explained the Elders plan the day's activities each morning. Everyone participates in the activities. Three meals a day are served, so there is plenty for everyone to do from hauling water, gathering wood for the fires, to cooking.

No drinking alcohol or doing drugs are permitted at the conference and designated security see this policy enforced, Hokte said. She is planning a 'give away' at this next conference as a token of appreciation from the Deere family to those who have helped make the event possible.

Since all meals are served free, donations are requested for food, paper goods (plates, cups, utensils, etc.) and money. It costs nearly a $1,000 to put the conference on, so anyone wishing to donate may contact Hokte at the Native American Center, OKC, (405) 232-2512 or her sister, Nova Deere, Route 3 Box 75, Okemah, Oklahoma 74859. Hokte expressed her thanks to Creek Nation Festival Committee for donating $150 last year. She said her Dad had never asked the Creek Tribe for a donation and was pleasantly surprised for the help.

Native Americans are invited to attend and are urged to bring their won camping gear and bedding. The Round House is located seven miles east and five miles north of Okemah, Oklahoma.

An Open Letter To The Beloved Mothers Of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation

It is my wish that this letter finds you feeling well and at peace with yourself and your loved ones.

I would like to discuss with you a very important and serious condition affecting the nation of our grandparents, our parents, us and our children; and, if healing efforts for this condition are not followed and pursued,- their children. This condition has an affect and an influence on every thread of existence of the Muscogee Nation's families and destroys the goals, dreams and future of our children and the Muscogee Nation's future. This condition causes great confusion and self doubt in the minds and hearts of the mothers of these people. It takes away from you mothers, who are the life's blood of this Muscogee Nation, important love relationships- sons, daughters, husbands- all the important people in your lives.

It is a mother who in her unique and special role in this world that conceives, nutures and gives life, then envelopes, surrounds and extends her love and wishes for all the good things this world has to offer and that she can provide to her brand new baby. A mother extends to her children unconditional and restrained love and affection thru situations in this life that are good or bad; pleasurable or painful.

The condition I speak of, however, may alter that love and cause the mother great emotional pain and sorrow so that she continually grieves and doubts herself and her sanity.

The condition I speak of has a very destructive effect on the body, mind and spirit of the individual and on the family. It causes the soil (the family) to become weak and impotent rather than growing full and fruitful it becomes weak, withered and barren.

The condition I speak of has had a long history through generations of Muscogee people even before their arrival to this land in Oklahoma and through the previous and present generations has caused: (1) Inability to know what is "normal" behavior. (2) Difficulty in following a project through. (3) Judging self harshly and having low self-esteem. (4) Difficulty in developing and sustaining relationships. (5) Over-reacting to change. (6) Constantly seeking approval and affirmation, yet having no sense of self-identity. (7) Feelings of being different. (8) Confusion and sense of inadequacy. (9) Lack of self-confidence in making decisions, no sense of power in making choices. (10) Inability to see alternatives to situations, thus responding very impulsively. (11) Isolation and fear of people, especially authority figures. (12) Fear of anger and criticism. (13) Being addicted to excitment. (14) Dependency on others and fear of abandonment. (15) Confusion between love and pity. (16) Lying when it would be just as easy to tell the truth.

The condition I speak of has also caused a kind of revolving door through chronic stress and/or long term/incurable illness and diseases that strip the people of their health; diseases that include diabetes mellitus, cancer, accidental injury and trauma, cidental injury and trauma, hypertension and obesity to name just a few.

*The condition I speak of- is alcoholism, and/or drug abuse. Although to many of you mothers the incidence of alcoholism and drug abuse may appear to be normal in your family systems, it is **not**, and its time to remove this purveyor of ill health and disease from your families.*

The mothers of the Muscogee people possess this healing power and with information and education, can bring direction and focus toward the eradication of this disease from their families.

The Creek Nation Alcohol Program can provide information and assistance in this return to health process. Help is available, you only need to ask!

A-Ho I have spoken. Al Rolland, Coordinator, Creek Nation Alcohol Program, Phone: (918) 623-0555. For more information contact the Creek Nation Indian Health Center at Okemah, Ok, 74859.

Gospel Singing...

There will be a Memorial Eve All-Night Gospel Singing at the Wetumka Indian Baptist Church May 24, 7:30 p.m. Master of Ceremonies will be Eastman Factor of Bethany and everyone is invited.

There will be hickory-smoked BBQ ribs, hamburgers and weiners. The church is located one mile south on HWY 75 and one-half mile east.

Viet Nam Era Veterans Establish Creek Center

By Helen Chalakee

Plans for construction of a multipurpose Veteran Center are underway by the newly organized Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Chapter of the Viet Nam Era Inter-tribal Association.

The Chapter was formed three months ago. Since that time, they have been busy structuring a constitution and by-laws, practicing color guard routines, assembling color guard uniforms, planning their new facility and scheduling activities.

The Vet Center idea came about after hearing them discuss the plight of the Indian veterans and after watching a video presentation, "Shadows of a Warrior," which was put together by the national Inter-Tribal Association. It has been over a decade, for some almost two decades, since they returned home from the Viet Nam War. They are still searching for some sort of accountability from the government and from the American public.

Instant comradery was formed by the Indian veterans at the beginning meetings. They found it easy to talk and laugh together in a manner no outsider could know about. These meetings proved out to be the best medicine for lightening the load of aggression some of the Indian veterans carry around.

For the most part, it has been a silent plea for help - a continuous attempt to reorganize their lives, restructure their families and participate in a non-violent fashion in civic organizations as is expected of them by the public- when war, death and injustice is still burning in their minds.

Some of them still suffer endless and sleepless nights combating flashbacks - remembering what they have been forced by society to suppress, then arising at dawn dredging up whatever coping techniques they can to make it through the day.

After the Creek Chapter was formed, the members began to realize the potential for the Chapter not to be just a social movement, but to become a reality what vet centers across the Nation were originally intended, a support mechanism for the needs of the Indian veterans in this area.

They realized that many of them beat the odds and made it, but many didn't make it. Their intention is to draw out their brothers who are still caught up in that conflict, assuring them they will have friends who relate to their experience and special needs. Problems like "Agent Orange" are unique to the Viet Nam veteran and it has taken the Viet Nam veteran HIMSELF to get others interested in, and make others aware of these unusual problems.

Years ago, persons close to the scene began advocating special counseling for Viet Nam Era Veterans who needed extra help to overcome the trauma of fighting an unpopular war and then returning to an uncertain homecoming. One of the earliest and most persistent advocates was a decorated young Army captain from Georgia who had returned from Viet Nam minus both legs and his right arm as a result of a grenade explosion. He told a Congressional committee:

"The inevitable psychological depression after injury, coupled with doubts that it may not have been worth it, comes later like a series of secondary explosions after the excitement of the battlefield is far behind, the reinforcement of your comrades-in-arms is a thing of the past...Anyone who deals with a Viet Nam returnee, wounded or not, must understand this delayed psychological symptom...It is not when you are lying there in the military hospital with your comrades around you...that things get tight for you psychologically and emotionally, it is when you begin getting back into a life that you always assumed you would enter and...find yourself kind of unable for a temporary time, to get back in there. That is when you are alone with your thoughts and your injury."

Presidential action in 1979 released a Presidential Review Memorandum to Congress explaining the need for readjustment counseling in these words:

"The VA's current authority to furnish psychological counseling does not permit the extension of professional services to those without a definable illness. These are veterans who have so-called low-grade readjustment problems manifested by feelings of bewilderment, alienation and pessimism. These feelings may result in, or contribute to unemployment, difficulties in inter-personal relationships, alcohol or drug dependence, and, in some instances, criminal conduct. The extent of this problem is unknown...A legislative request for readjustment professional counseling is part of this Administration's budget and is currently pending before Congress."

This legislation was proposed for readjustment counseling to Viet Nam Era Veterans and their families. It was aimed at those veterans who were not classified as mentally ill, but nevertheless, in need of some counseling.

As a result, the Veterans Health Care Amendment Act of 1979 was passed by Congress giving the VA authority to start a new low-key counseling program. Recognizing the need in 1979 and opening up store front operations in some 80 locations across the nation may have had some impact in the non-Indian world, but for those Indian veterans who were apathetic to the Veterans Administration in the first place, they had nowhere to turn.

The Inter-Tribal Association organized in 1981 helped answer this need and has since been caught up in the compassion of support for the Indian Viet Nam Era Veteran by most of the individual tribes across the Nation.

Realizing the need for a centralized location for the Chapter where useful services could be established, a proposal was submitted to the Principal Chief. In favor of the proposal, he in turn requested an allocation to be made from bingo revenue by the National Council to fund the center.

On April 27, the National Council not only approved the funding, but added an extra amount for the construction of a new facility. The proposed building site is the old Oakdale school located on Highway 75, south of Okmulgee.

The new facility will include office space for counseling, as well as administrative offices that will be used for service. The Mvskoke (Creek) Chapter will be one of the first in the Nation to establish an independent Indian veteran center through the financial assistance of their tribal government. The center will be open daily to furnish services such as service claims, educational information, employment information, post traumatic stress counseling, and alcohol and drug counseling which is at a very high rate among the Viet Nam Era veterans.

Helping the Indian veterans restructure their lives and family situations will bring about better relations within family structures which is the lifeline of any tribe.

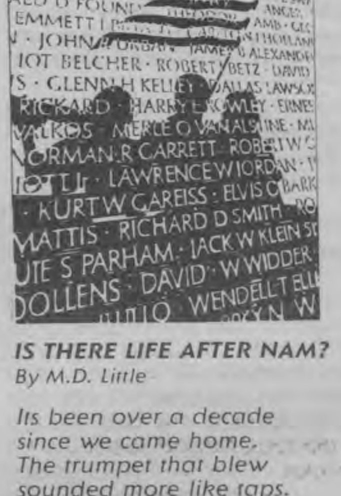
In keeping with the objectives of the Creek Chapter Constitution the center will serve to: *Promote the image of the Native American Viet Nam era veteran (2) Establish an Honor/Color Guard to render the military honors for a deceased veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces (3) Become a unified voice for Creek veterans in veteran affairs, and (4) Provide information concerning veteran rights and benefits.*

Membership is established to come from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation veterans, American Indian veterans of the Armed Forces who had served between 1959 and 1975, those American Indian veterans who served in Viet Nam regardless of the dates served and reside within the geographical boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and American Indians who remain on active duty with the Armed Services.

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP: For a person to become eligible, that person must be a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or be a member of, or enrolled in an Indian tribe and must present evidence of blood quantum and tribal affiliation. Applicants must present discharge or DD214 form. ***ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP:*** For a person to be eligible for associate membership, that person must be a veteran of the Armed Forces and/or perform an outstanding service for the Chapter and be recognized by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will be the sole authority for granting associate membership. ***AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP:*** For a person to be eligible for auxiliary membership, he/she must be a relative of a regular member, or an interested person of Indian descent, approved by the Board of Directors.

Officers of the Mvskoke (Creek) Nation Chapter are: Commander, Barton Williams; Vice-Commander, John T. McIntosh; Secretary, Jim Burgess; and Treasurer Prentice Berryhill.

An Auxiliary has been formed and has been working fundraising events to assist in purchasing uniforms for the color guard. Auxiliary chair is Helen Chalakee; Vice-chair, Christine Burgess; Secretary, Shirley Littlehead; Co-treasurers, Kathy Haney and Cecelia Whitman.



IS THERE LIFE AFTER NAM?

By M.D. Little

Its been over a decade
since we came home.
The trumpet that blew
sounded more like taps.
Our heads were bowed,
our hand shakes were silent.
Is there life after Nam?
We must live it to see,
For some, life after Nam
was never to be.

We prove to our Nation
of what they can send.
To defend with our blood
on us you can depend.
Life after Nam for some
was a cane, a wheelchair or a bed.
Life after Nam for others was alcohol,
dope or a bullet in the head.
Finger pointing and name calling
was the order of the day.
With eyes looking down-
I'm a Viet Nam vet, we were afraid to say
Is there life after Nam?
We must live it to see,
For some, life after Nam
was never to be.

We were minuteman at Lexington,
doughboys in France.
A dogface in Germany;
but from Nam you gave us no chance.
From soldier to civilian
we had to make the change.
With death in our minds,
blood on our hands- suddenly
this world seems strange.
We came back winners.
You made us feel we had lost.
No one to talk to, nowhere to turn-
Oh what cost.
Some of our scars are not seen
by the naked eye.
Pains of lost buddies, brothers,
classmates- at night we still cry.
Is there life after Nam?
We must live it to see,
For some, life after Nam
was never to be.

The anger you see
is really hurt in a mask.
Rejected and dejected,
we only did what you say.
Some ran to Canada,
while others chose to fight.
You may come home now,
YOU'RE safe from your flight.
We love it here in America,
the only place that's FREE
We've been over there
and This is where I'd rather be.
Is there life after Nam?
We must live it to see,
For some, life after Nam
was never to be.

Congressman Synar Opposes Indian Views of Meeting

By Helen Chalakee

An article I wrote for the March, 1987 issue of the Muscogee Nation News detailing how the Oklahoma Indian tribes are ready to enact whatever lawful measures it takes to get the states to recognize tribal sovereignty quoted Congressman Mike Synar when an Indian delegation visited him in an attempt to gain favorable support for tribal activities.

I wrote, ***"When Creek Nation personnel visited Congressman Mike Synar in Washington, D.C., Synar told the group that until they started acting as responsible Americans they would not receive any support from the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation."***

Several who read this article found Synar's statement offensive and detrimental to their cause. They, in turn, contacted Synar and he denied making the statement.

In a reply to Marcianna Jacobs, Secretary for the Oklahoma Indian Mineral Owners Association, Oklahoma City, Synar wrote: *"Thank you for requesting that I respond to the article that appeared in the Muscogee Nation News. . .I certainly understand your concern with this statement. I am also concerned because it is wrong. To say that I am very concerned about being misrepresented in this way is an understatement. It is unfortunate that the meeting was misrepresented. And it is even more unfortunate that the journalist who wrote the article did not contact me or my staff to check her sources.*

I assure you that I have never said or believed any such thing, on my behalf or on behalf of the delegation. ***While I believe that Native American business have the same responsibility to pay taxes that every other business has, I fully recognize and respect tribal sovereignty. . .*** I hope this clears the air. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Best Wishes, Mike.

David Baldwin, Project Director for the Oklahoma Indian Business Development Center, Edmond, Oklahoma, wrote Synar: "*Our organization would like to respond to your statement concerning Oklahoma Indians in the Muscogee Nation News. We have identified over 600 Indian owned and operated companies in the state of Oklahoma.*

Many of these companies are owned and operated or chartered by one of 31 tribes located in Oklahoma.

These companies provide jobs (many non-Indian), pay state and federal taxes and support a huge Oklahoma infrastructure.

The Indian population of Oklahoma is the largest in the nation. The Indians of Oklahoma have honored themselves on every battlefield in every war fought by this country your office represents. To have you say Indians are irresponsible is unbelievable.

As a group we are working very hard to increase our Indian owned businesses and enterprises in spite of facing overwhelming prejudice in the non—Indian business and financial communities. Mr. Ted Bryant, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Indian Business Development Center was quoted in the Edmond Sun,...the economic impact on the Oklahoma economy through Indian tribes, individual Indians and the federal agencies providing services to Indian people is $1.5 billion.' Can any other ethnic group in the state make such a claim?

Two weeks later Baldwin received a response from Synar almost identical to Marcianna's reply from him: *Dear David, I recently received your letter responding to an article that appeared in the Muscogee Nation News. . .In your response, you state, 'To have you say that Oklahoma Indians are irresponsible is unbelievable.' You are right. It is unbelievable. And it is wrong. To say that I am very concerned about being misrepresented in this way is an understatement.*

It is unfortunate that the meeting was misrepresented. It is more unfortuante that the journalist who wrote the article did not contact me or my staff to check her sources. And it is even more unfortunate that prior to writing and circulating your rebuttal you did not take the time to check into the accuracy of the statement.

If you had checked, you would have found that I have never said or believed any such thing. ***While I do believe that Native American businesses have the same RESPONSIBILITY to pay taxes that every other business has, I FULLY RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY. With best wishes, Mike.***

For three consecutive days, I was contacted by Synar's office wanting space in the Muscogee Nation News to oppose the article. Synar staff aide, Debbie Weslyn, said Synar wanted to send a letter to the editor of the paper.

I asked for a personal interview with Synar and she said it might be possible, *but wanted to know how the article would be written.* ***I told her it would be written from an Indian viewpoint because articles appearing in non—Indian newspapers seldom were written from an Indian perspective.***

She hesitated, then accepted my offer to tape a question and answer type interview with Synar and print it verbatim. I still have not received confirmation for an interview, but I did receive a letter to the editor, I assume it was from Synar. It was not signed. His name was typed at the bottom and it was mailed in an official government envelope. Weslyn did call asking if I received it.

LETTER TO THE MNN EDITOR: (From Congressman Mike Synar)

The second district of Oklahoma boasts one of the largest native American populations in the country. For that reason, I have a keen interest in legislation that affects Indian tribes and enjoy a good working relationship with the tribes.

In light of that, I was disheartened recently when I read a report in this newspaper which misrepresented my view of native Americans. I was quoted as saying, . . ."until the Oklahoma Indians started acting as responsible Americans they would not receive any support fom the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation."

If I believed that, it would stand for reason that I wouldn't have cast numerous votes to benefit Native American, **would I?** *But I have, and I do see Indians as responsible citizens.*

This misstatement stemmed from a meeting between myself, a member of my staff, and three representatives of Indian tribes and organizations in Oklahoma. The discussion was about the issue of pull tabs--a practice illegal in Oklahoma. As you know, for tribes to get an exemption from Oklahoma law, Congress has to act. The Oklahoma congressional delegation has agreed to take the tribes' case to the House Interior Committee if the tribes will work out an agreement with the state to pay taxes on these revenues.

In that meeting, I explained the position. The interpretation of the session was **unfair and incorrect.** *I have never accused Indians of not being responsible Americans. I have always been open and honest in my discussion with all constituent groups.* ***Such misunderstanding with friends I have always worked with closely is discouraging.***

For the record--*I will continue to support* ***useful*** *Indian programs at* ***adequate*** *funding levels and the sovereignty of Indian tribes in the United States.* ***Mike Synar, Member of Congress, Second District, Oklahoma.***

Letter To The MNN Readership From The Editor:

My responsibility to report and edit the MNN goes even further than to the Creek tribe because the MNN is sent to Indians throughout Oklahoma and across the United States. ***Tongue-in-cheek attitudes and statements from politicians have been too long avoided by the Indian press. For this reason, I will continue to try to sort out the double meanings that are tossed at us whenever we attempt to negotiate for political equality.***

1. *I will not compromise on my report of Synar's statement. My Indian sources of information have reaffirmed to me their statements and I believe them to be true and correct.* ***They called it like they heard it and deciphered it.*** *As far as getting Synar's consensus on what was reported to me, I don't have to, as long as I attribute who said what. No reporter has to go to the whole world for approval. . .I believe that is called censorship!*

2. *A Tulsa World article written by Malvina Stephson who is a columnist for the Tulsa World living in Washington, D.C. says, (April 19, 1987) "Before leaving for the Easter recess, Oklahoma Rep. Mike Synar said that Indians should pay taxes like any other small business. And he didn't confine that to the SALES tax! "I support their sovereignty and independence,* ***but if they are doing business, they ought to meet the same requirements as other Oklahomans,"*** *the congressman said.* ***"And the Oklahoma delegation agrees on that."***

It seems the Oklahoma Delegation didn't agree with Synar and didn't want Synar speaking for them. In a letter from U.S. Senator Don Nickles to the Oklahoma Indian Minerals Owners Assn., the Senator wrote: ***. . ."Please let me assure you that Congressman Synar does not speak for me, especially regarding Indian Affairs.*** *I have always been supportive of Oklahoma Indian tribes and their efforts to improve the standard of living for their people.* ***Sincerely, Don Nickles, U.S.Senator.***

3. *Congressman Synar very readily states that he supports tribal sovereignty.* ***He follows that with a big BUT,*** *and says Indian economic development should pay taxes the same as everybody else.* ***"Mr. Synar! Tax exemption for tribal governments is guaranteed through treaty rights with the federal government and is the basis for tribal sovereignty. Sovereignty which you repeatedly confess you support."***

4. *"Mr. Synar, the time has come that Indian people are no longer going to sit back in repose. We will answer with legitimate cause. We will give others the opportunity to act in a responsible manner to our concerns. We will vote in unity for issues we hold as truths!*

Indian Stereotypes Ingrained in U.S....

By Ron Martz

The false images of the American Indian are persistent and pervasive in our culture.

These stereotypes are so ingrained, say Indian scholars, that people who would be outraged by racial slurs against other ethnic minorities barely blink when American Indians are demeaned.

"This stuff never stops. The stereotype of the American Indian is with us all the time," says Rayna Green, a Cherokee Indian and director of the Smithsonian Institution's American Indian program. Some recent examples:

On Nov. 23, 1986, CBS-TV sportscaster Irv Cross began a report on "NFL Today" by telling viewers to "circle the wagons and keep the women and children out of sight. The (Washington) Redskins are on the warparth."

Had Cross, a black, used similar terms and images about his own ethnic minority, he would have risked public crucifixion by the NAACP, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and every other group that purports to represent people of color.

The current edition of the popular fold-out Rand McNally road map of North Carolina and South Carolina urges travelers to visit Oconaluftee Indian Village and the Museum of the Cherokees, where "Cherokee braves will show you how they use their blowguns; squaws will string beads together."

"Squaw," "papoose" and "brave" are regarded by most Indians as being as insulting as are "mammy," "pickaninny" and "black buck" to blacks.

A story in the Washington Times in late October told readers "political war paint is on and wagons are circling" in a Colorado congressional race in which an Indian rancher ran against a non-Indian rancher. Accompanying the article were photographs of the Indian candidate, Ben Nighthorse Campbell, a Northern Cheyenne Indian, dressed in a white cowboy hat.

Indians say they are the only race of people equated with a profession (cowboys).

If the Atlanta Braves baseball team hadn't dismantled the dancing Chief Noc-A-Homa's tipi (the correct Indian spelling) and fired him-for reasons having nothing to do with sympathy toward Indians-it would have topped this list of Indian stereotypes.

But Atlanta's baseball team and many other sports teams continue to use Indians as mascots. Indians are the only race of people given equal billing in this country's arenas and stadiums with animals, pieces of automotive equipment, and hosiery.

"Unlike other groups that would just not allow something like this to happen, Indians have never been able to lobby successfully to stop these things," said Ms. Green.

"All of these symbols, no matter how innocusous," says Suzan Shown Harjo, executive director of the National Congress of American Indians, "lead to dehumanization, and dehumanization results in a loss of hope due to low self-esteem."

Indian mascots demeaning

The use of Indians as sports mascots is considered particularly dehumanizing by many Indians. The Atlanta Braves, the Washington Redskins, the Florida State Seminoles, the St. John's Redmen and the Cleveland Indians are among the worst offenders, because they constantly make headlines on the sports pages, and headline writers often refer to their predilection for "scalping" the opponent.

Some schools have changed the nicknames of their sports teams-most notably Stanford University and Dartmouth College, from Indians to the Cardinal and the Green, respectively, but only after much hue and cry from outraged non-Indian alumni.

HELEN COON PAID TRIBUTE TO HER FRIEND, REV. B. FRANK BELVIN *at the recent Honor Dinner and Book Study Program on "God's Warhorse," held at the First Indian Baptist Church of Okmulgee. Mrs. Coon, of Little Cussetah Indian Baptist Church, serves as Director of the MSW Women's Missionary Union.*

FESTIVAL continued...

IF CONSENT FORMS ARE NOT SIGNED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN, INDIVIDUALS WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CREEK NATION OLYMPICS.

The Creek Nation Olympics will be held at Harmon Field in Okmulgee.

Awards: The top three finishers in each individual finishers in each individual event and relay event will be awarded medals. Point system (6,4,2, Doubles on Relay) will be used to determine a team or organization champion. The top three (3) tribes/organization will be awarded a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophy.

For more information contact: Jimmy B. Hill, Coordinator, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447, (918) 756-8700 ext. 232.

MEN & WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

The 13th Annual Creek Nation Festival Softball tournament will be held June 19, 20 and 21 at the Creek Nation Sports Omni-plex located north of Okmulgee.

The entries for the All Indian Men's fastpitch tournament will be limited to 48 teams. Rosters will be limited to 15 players and each player must be 1/4 degree Indian blood.

Entries for the Open Women's slow-pitch tournament will be held to 24 teams and roster limits of 15 players.

Deadline for entries will be June 12 and entry fee of $90 must be in the form of a cashiers check or money order. All entry fees must be paid by June 12, no exceptions.

A special feature of the tournament will be the Second Annual Old Timers game that will be played on the evening of the 20th. The game will feature a team from Western Oklahoma against a team from Eastern Oklahoma. The Old Timers game was a crowd favorite last year.

To enter a team contact: Creek Nation Festival softball tournament, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Okla 74447 or call 918-756-8700

TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The Creek Nation Tennis Tournament will be held June 20 and 21, 1987, at the tennis courts located at 1300 N. Okmulgee, in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

The entry fee deadline will be June 16, and the draw will be made Wednesday, June 17. Consequently, NO entries will be accepted after this date.

The tennis tournament entry will consist of the following events:
Mens Singles-Womens Singles
Mens Doubles-Womens Doubles
Mens 35 Singles-Womens 35 Singles
Mens 35 Doubles-Womens 35 Doubles
Mens Intermediate Singles, Womens Intermediate Singles, Mens Intermediate Doubles, Womens Intermediate Doubles, Mixed Doubles.

Matches will start at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, June 20, 1987. Mail entries to: Creek Nation Festival, ATT Kathy Polen, c/o Creek Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Also, entry fees need to be enclosed. Make Cashier Checks and Money Orders payable to: Creek Nation Festival Tennis Tournament. No personnel checks will be accepted.

The Tennis Tournament will be held at the Okmulgee City tennis courts near the omni-plex. For more information contact, Kathy Polen at 918-756-8700 ext 256.

HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT

The Horseshoe Tournament will begin at 11:00 a.m. at the Creek Nation Omni-Plex. There will be men's single and doubles, and women's single and doubles with a $2 entry fee and double elimination. For more information contact, Yommie Monahwee or Zenas Dowling at 918-756-8700 ext.365.

VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

The Volleyball Tournament will be held at the Creek Nation Omni-Plex. The Yardeka Indian Community will be in charge. For more information contact Donnie McNac in Okemah, Okla.

For Booth Information
Contact Bob Herrod
Creek Nation
918/756-8700

Tribute Paid to Pioneer Indian Missionary:

Dr. Frank Belvin, Missionary to the Creeks Receives Honor at First Indian Baptist

By Kathryn Bell

Reverand B. Frank Belvin, Choctaw missionary to the Creeks and Seminoles, was honored at a special Dinner and Book Study April 17, Friday, 6:00 p.m. at the First Indian Baptist Church, pastored by Rev. Bridge Chuckluck.

The Indian fellowship dinner and book, "God's Warhorse," written by Naomi Hunke, which chronicles the life and missionary work of Rev. Belvin among the Creek and Seminole people of Oklahoma.

Rev. B. Frank Belvin listens as his friends and fellow ministers pay tribute to his missionary work among the Creeks and Seminoles.

Approximately 100 of the congregation and friends of Rev. Belvin gathered to pay tribute to this man who, inspite of the hardships of growing up (which included being raised in an orphanage) was stedfast in obtaining an education and was faithful to the call of God on his life.

The retired Baptist home missionary was lauded by all who gave testimony of him, simply as "our brother, Frank." Goldie Brown, friend and devotee of Belvin's work among the Indians credited the minister with providing the Muskogee-Seminole-Wichita (MSW) Association a valuable opportunity for growth. "Rev. Belvin really opened the doors for our Association. He gave us stamina and courage..."

The evenings events started at 6:00 p.m. with an Indian Fellowship Dinner followed at 7:00 p.m. with the program honoring Rev. Belvin. Paula McNac sang the WMU Theme Song, "Take My Life, Lead Me Lord," with Mrs. Linda Chuckluck presenting the Prayer Calendar.

Melissa McCoy gave the Welcome and Introductions of Guests; Mr. Elliot Leitka, pastor of the Glenpool Baptist Mission, Mrs. Helen Coon, MSW, WMU Director, and Goldie Brown.

Elliot Leitka spoke of Belvin's God-appointed mission to the Creeks and Seminoles - "I know the Lord brought Frank, a Choctaw, to the Creeks and Seminoles - He called him to this field and he has been with us ever since," said Leitka, a Creek, who related how marvelous and impossible works were accomplished in the hard economic times thirty years ago when the he and Belvin took turns serving as director of the Baptist RA (youth) camps. "Out of these camps came many future workers for the Lord," said Leitka.

Helen Coon, Creek, shared her impressions of Belvin and his late wife, Wilma, and their long association - "Throughout our 40 year friendship, the Belvins have been an inspiration to me. Throughout his long ministry, which has not always been an easy time, our two families have shared many tears and joys together. He is the most kind and humble person I know, and I think that we in this church should feel honored to be associated with him."

Pat Kelley sang "Touch Through Me, Holy Spirit," and Mrs. Martha Johnson introduced George Jessee, pastor of Spring Church, Sasakwa, who gave a study of "God's Warhorse."

The congregation of First Indian Baptist of Okmulgee, which Rev. Chuckluck calls "interdenominational" then gave individual tribute to Belvin. Among them were Creeks, Seminoles, Arapaho, Navajo, Kickapoo, Cherokee, and other non-Indians.

The Honor Service closed with a Doxology and prayer by Rev. Chuckluck.

The First Indian Baptist Church of Okmulgee was established in 1975, dedicated in 1977 and has been pastored by Rev. Chuckluck for the past seven years. The church is a part of the Muskogee-Seminole-Wichita Baptist Association.

ATTEND THE 13TH ANNUAL CREEK NATION FESTIVAL AND RODEO JUNE 19, 20, 21

CREEK NATION OMNIPLEX
Rodeo Performances June 19-20, 8:00 p.m.
June 21, 8:00 p.m.

ALL-INDIAN OLYMPICS, ALL-INDIAN MEN'S FASTPITCH SOFTBALL, OPEN WOMEN'S SLO-PITCH SOFTBALL, GOLF, TENNIS, VOLLEYBALL AND HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT, ARTS & CRAFTS, CONCESSION BOOTHS

Presenting the 1987 Creek Princess and her Court

The Creek Nation Princess and the Runner-Ups were crowned in the Creek Nation Princess Pageant, April 11, in the Mound Building Auditorium. Creek Nation extends our congratulations to Princess Rhonda Harjo, the Runners-up and each of the Pageant contestants!

1987
Creek Nation Princ

MISS RHONDA HARJO WILL REIGN AS THE 1987 CREEK NATION PRINCESS. *The 21 year-old Creek beauty is the daughter of Amon and Sylvia Harjo of Washita. Rhonda is a part-time student at Central State University and is employed fulltime as a legal secretary in Edmond.*

THE OUTGOING CREEK NATION PRINCESS MELINDA TARYOLE, *right, is shown with Second Runner-up Sandra Lewis at the reception for the Princess contestants held April 7 at the CN Complex Dining Hall. Congratulations to Miss Taryole for the wonderful job she has done during her reign representing Creek Nation as a Goodwill Ambassador,*

KONYA FOREMAN, LEFT, FROM TULSA, RECEIVED THE TITLE OF FIRST RUNNER-UP *in the Princess Pageant. The 20-year old Creek woman is the daughter of Jim Foreman of Tahlequah and Katherine Foreman of Tulsa. She has served as Salutatorian of the class of 1984 at Southwest Baptist Academy, was active in sports, cheerleading in school and has won honors for citizenship and academics.*

1986
Miss Indian

TERESA SHOEMAKER, *former Miss Cherokee and Miss Indian Oklahoma served on the panel of judges for the selection of the 1987 Creek Nation Princess.*

LETTER FROM RUTH ARRINGTON:

Dear Steve,

Just want to let you know that I enjoyed the opportunity to help with the Princess selection. Once again you folks found some fine candidates and had a well organized event. Further, I encourage you to continue to do something like the young people again, they were darling. Thank you for asking me to be a part.

Sincerely, Ruth Arrington

-NOTICE-

The CN Princess Pageant Committee sincerely offers apology to Representative Helen Chupco for the oversight in not thanking her in last months issue of the MNN for her donation to the Pageant. Thank you Mrs. Chupco for the gift.

SECOND RUNNER-UP SANDRA LEWIS, *Muskogee, performed a traditional Creek song on an Indian flute she had made.*

THE TITLE OF "BRAVE" AND "PRINCESS" BESTOWED DURING THE MORRIS SCHOOL'S INDIAN HERITAGE DAY *went to brother and sister, Jamie and William Haney, shown here with Marge Shipley, Title IV Aide and coordinator of the Indian Day activities, which included Indian food, arts and crafts exhibit, songs, storytelling, an authentic Plains Indian teepee and a presentation by Grace Thorpe, Special Speaker.* *—Photo by Herman L. Thompson*

WEARING THEIR TRADITIONAL DRESS FOR MASON'S INDIAN AWARENESS WEEK, *Allison Arkeketa, left, and Heather West, were among the Indian students who participated in the Indian Awareness Week held at Mason High School, April 22, 23, 24. The Week of special Indian cultural events was sponsored by the Mason JOM Parent Committee and the Title IV-A program.*

AN HONOR DINNER FOR OKMULGEE SCHOOL INDIAN STUDENTS *was held at Westside Elementary on April 30, 6:30 p.m. which paid tribute to the achievements of the Indian students enrolled in Indian Education programs within the Okmulgee School system. Pete Beaver and Ron West of the Indian Education Section of the State Department of Education, were guest speakers. Shown participating in the ceremonies above are members of the Creek Coser family who did a Plains war dance exhibition: at the drum are Coser brothers, Wayne, a student at OST, George, Adolescent Counselor with the Tulsa Indian Health Care and Dr. Pete Coser, Associate Professor at OSU. The dancers are; Kim Coser, Stillwater, daughter of Pete and Joann Coser and Christopher Harjo, son of Jim Harjo and Nettie Coser Harjo.*

Creek Nation Headstart Hops to Victory!

THE 2ND ANNUAL HEADSTART LITTLE OLYMPICS *was held April 25 on the CN Complex grounds and the event brought together students, such as these pictured above, from the four Headstart Centers in Creek Nation - Okmulgee, Yeager, Eufaula, and Sapulpa, to participate in Little Olympic game competition and just plain fun! Each center received a trophy and each student participating received a ribbon. WELL DONE KIDS, PARENTS AND TEACHERS!*

Oklahoma's Indian Heritage in OU Library Exhibit

The cultural diversity created in Oklahoma because of its American Indian heritage is reflected in an exhibit of photographs and materials from the University of Oklahoma's Western History Collections.

Now on display through May in OU's Bizzell Memorial Library, the exhibit features photographs of an Indian Ribbon dance at Okemah, a Cheyenne-Arapaho powwow at Fort Reno around 1905 and scenes of tipis and mounted warriors.

Among the documents on display is a manuscript of Galatians translated into the Muskogee language, a letter from the Five Civilized Tribes executive committee announcing a vigorous campaign in support of independent statehood for Indian Territory, and a letter from the agent at the Sac and Fox Indian Agency describing the purchase of some supplies for the Indians.

"From the nomadic Indian tribes of the era of prehistory to the relocation of the Five Civilized Tribes, native Americans embracing different cultures have inhabited Oklahoma," noted Bradford Koplowitz, assistant curator of OU's Western History Collections and organizer of the exhibit.

"This exhibit of materials from the Western History Collections documents only brief portions of that heritage. People interested in a wider understanding should visit the Western History Collections in Monnet Hall," he said.

The "Our American Indian heritage" exhibit can be viewed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays in the foyer of Bizzell Memorial Library.

Cogee Keith Assumes Manager's Position

Cogee Keith, Okmulgee, was recently appointed to Manager II of the Okmulgee office of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission. For the last ten years, Mrs. Keith has worked in the Unemployment Insurance division of the Employment Security as the Claims Manager/Supervisor/Adjuster.

Mrs. Keith started with the Commission as an Interviewer Aide, then Interviewer, Senior Interviewer and Manager I.

Active as a member of the Okmulgee Indian Community, Cogee is also a member of the Butler Memorial Methodist Church, Okmulgee. She has served on the Okmulgee Community Resource Committee. Mrs. Keith upon graduation from Okmulgee High School in 1954, attended Draughon's Business College.

She is married to Walter L. Keith, who is employed by Ball Corp. and has three children and six grandchildren. She is the daughter of Chief Claude Cox and the late Louise Freeman Cox.

MR. & MRS. JESSE JONES, Coffeyville, are a Creek couple living out-of-state, who are active in community affairs. Mrs. Jones was recently appointed to serve on the local school board, VSD 445, as well as serving on the youth activity board and urban renewal board for 12 years. Mr. Jones serves on the zoning appeal and community corrections advisory boards of his community. We salute you for your community spirit.

NARF Editor Elected to Set on NAPA Board

Susan M. Arkeketa, Creek-Ote, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the Native American Press Association (NAPA) at its annual convention held in Albuquerque, NM. She is currently working as the editor of the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) Legal Review, a national Indian legal defense fund.

Susan said she was happy to be elected to the board and that she felt that present board members would bring in valuable expertise to help the growth of NAPA. Her major interest in serving on the Board is to help continue NAPA's scholarship program and technical training for Indian journalists.

Other board members include, Mark Trahant, Arizona Republic, George Gorospe, Valencia County News Bulletin, Nancy Butterfield, Moccasin Line, Minnie Two Shoes, Wotanin Wowapi, Mike Burgess, Talking Leaf, Sid Miller, Spilyay Tymoo and Twila Perkins, Seminole Tribune.

Susan graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a M.A. in Communication and a B.A. in Journalism. Her writing experience includes: working as a high school correspondent for the Tulsa Daily World Youth Page, minority affairs editor for the Oklahoma Daily, editing, reporting and free-lancing.

In addition, Susan also has over 16 years of experience working with non-profit organizations. She had done work for the mentally retarded, Indian organizations and youth groups and has tourned the United States as Miss Indian America. She is also listed as an "Outstanding Young Woman of America" for 1982 and 1986.

Susan is the daughter of Benjamin and Mary Arkeketa, Sand Springs, Ok, and is the granddaughter of the last Jess and Margaret Freeman, Okmulgee, OK. She currently resides in Boulder, CO. and has one daughter, Cody E. Harjo.

—NOTICE—

How To Become An Enrolled Member of the Creek Tribe

To become enrolled with the Creek Tribe, the following steps are involved in the application process, according to the Creek Nation Citizenship Board:

1. You must provide evidence of Creek blood by: a Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), verfied by issuing agency; unbroken chain of birth certificates; court-approved heirship decree or a combination of the above.

2. Make application for enrollment which includes ancestry information with the CN Citizenship Board located at the Creek Nation Complex, telephone 1-918-756-8700 ex 224 or write; Citizenship Board at P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447.

The Citizenship Board stated that it usually takes two to three weeks to receive a Creek Citizenship Card.

GEORGE TIGER, NEW HOST OF "INSIDE NATIVE AMERICA," IS SHOWN BEING BRIEFED BY ROBIN DILL, CREEK, THE PRODUCER OF THE KOTV-CHANNEL 6 PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM which airs the first Sunday of each month at 11:00 a.m. George is employed with the CN Office of the Second Chief as Liaison, and was recently selected among other applicants to host the ten-year old show.

Creeks Involved in "Inside Native America"

George Tiger was recently selected to be the host of "Inside Native America," a public affairs program on Native Americans and Indian issues of KOTV-Channel 6 in Tulsa. Tiger, Okmulgee, is the Liaison Officer for the Principal Chief's Office at Creek Nation. His background includes radio, newspaper and public relations work.

Rick Peterson had been serving as temporary host since January, when previous host of 10 years, Charlie Clark, resigned the position. The show airs once a month on the first Sunday of at 11:00 a.m.

Robin Dill, Creek also, serves as the Producer of "Inside Native America." She has worked for KOTV for four years as a Technical Director. She and her husband, Mike, and 17-month old son live in Tulsa. They are expecting their second child in July.

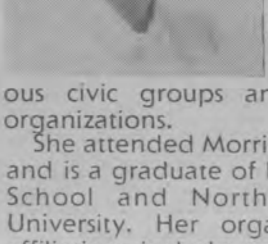
Robin is the daughter of Bob and Jan Davis of Broken Arrow.

George is the son of the late Coody and Lela Tiger of the Yardeka Community.

Creek Woman Named to "Outstanding Young Women of America" 1986 List

The Board of Advisors for the Outstanding Young Women of America awards program announced today that Bennie Beaver Gossman has been selected for inclusion in the 1986 edition of OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMEN OF AMERICA.

Mrs. Gossman and her husband Harold reside in Norman, OK. She is employed as a Traffic Rate Analyst for Carlon Electric in Oklahoma City. The daughter of Franklin and Letha Rutherford, Kearny, AZ and the granddaughter of Mrs. Della M. Beaver and Mr. and Mrs. Tom C. Rutherford of Okmulgee, OK.



Bennie was selected after 115,000 nominations were received throughout North America from political leaders, litical leaders, university and college officials, clergymen, business leaders, as well as from various civic groups and community organizations.

She attended Morris Public Schools and is a graduate of Henryetta High School and Northeastern State University. Her organizations and affiliations include a member of the Big Cussetah Indian Methodist Church, Delta Nu Alpha Transportation Fraternity, Secretary-Treasurer 1988, Oklahoma City Transportation Club, Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women, which she serves as Pageant Director 1987, attended the 1984 Democratic Convention as a Special Guest, and the International Order of Rainbow for Girls, Okmulgee Assembly, Grand Officer 1972.

While at Northeastern, she received the Outstanding Senior Award from Sigma Sigma Sigma Social Sorority and the Academic Achievement Award for Intercollegiate Gymnastics.

Now in it's 22nd year, the OYWA program is designed to honor and encourage exceptional young women between the ages of 21 and 36 who have distinguished themselves in many fields of endeavor, such as service to the community, professional leadership, academic achievement, business advancement, cultural accomplishments and civic and political participation. Achievements in these areas are the result of dedication, responsibility, and a drive for excellence - qualities which deserve to be recognized and remembered.

CN RODEO CLUB
QUEEN PAGEANT
JUNE 19, 1987

Creek Citizen Organized First Red Cross Chapter in Indian Territory in 1905...

By Kathryn Bell

Dr. Fred S. Clinton, a Creek from a prominent pioneering Tulsa family, was instrumental in organizing the first Tulsa Chapter of the Red Cross in Indian Territory, out of which the Tulsa Chapter of the Red Cross was formed.

Dr. Clinton applied for a Red Cross branch to be established in Indian territory on January 5, 1905, according to historical documents on the City of Tulsa.

During the year, the chiefs of the Five Civilized Tribes served as the Presidents of the Indian Territory Red Cross Branch. Pleasant Porter (1899-1907) was Principal Chief of the Creeks at that time.

According to these records, Dr. Clinton and the late J.H. McBirney had their offices in the first territorial Red Cross branch, which was completed in 1906.

Eleven years later, during World War I, the Tulsa chapter was finally formed, with the aid of Charles Page.

The Tulsa Hotel was the site of the first organizational meeting for the Tulsa Chapter to be formed - a difficult task because at that time there were no civic clubs to support the Chapter. Funds were raised by Page and other organizers by touring the eastern part of the state with members of the French Escadrille team.

However, during 1918, the Chapter, which had changed from wartime to peacetime activity three times since it was organized, managed to feed an average of 1,200 soldiers and sailors monthly from canteen services in the Tulsa Frisco passenger station.

The decades to follow brought challenges that the Tulsa Chapter met: in 1921, a race riot in Tulsa left 100 dead; during the Depression, the Red Cross came to the rescue again, distributing flour milled from federal farm board wheat and cotton yard goods for clothing; during the 30's the Red Cross was active in teaching the blind Braille.

In the 1940's, the Red Cross rallied to meet the needs of another war; the 50's saw the Tulsa Red Cross Chapter teaching atom bomb survival courses and giving polio vaccines for the children.

And in current times, Tulsa's history of tornadoes and floods and the ever-increasing need for blood, has provided challenges that the Red Cross in Tulsa has and is continuing to meet.

The Clintons in Creek Nation-

Not only have the Clintons, who have the distinction of being one of three families closely identified with the history of Tulsa, been active in the organization of the Red Cross in Indian Territory, but were active in the civic, religious and cultural affairs of Tulsa.

Dr. Clinton, his two brothers and sister, Mrs. J.H. McBirney, were the Tulsans in the family.

Their mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Clinton owned a cattle ranch near Okmulgee, until 1884, when the Frisco railroad was extended to Red Fork. Then the Clintons built a fine home in Okmulgee.

Mrs. Louise Clinton, Charles Clinton's wife, was one-quarter Creek and an enrolled member of the tribe.

Dr. Clinton, born on his parents Okmulgee ranch, was educated within the Creek Nation, and later attended the Kansas City Medical College. He returned to Red Fork about 1897 to practice his profession and later moved to Tulsa.

Dr. Clinton was credited with the discovery of one of the first oil wells in Tulsa County - Red Rock.

Clintons in Okmulgee History-

Lawlessness was often a problem in Indian Territory as many people were left destitute after the Civil War, and still others were just lawless by nature. The Territory was a good place to escape the law of the States. From an eyewitness account in 1880 near Okmulgee, the following incident was recorded in the "History of Okmulgee County," regarding Charles Clinton, the patriarch of the Clinton family: "One day, Charles Clinton, who operated the Half Circle S Ranch (with F.B. Severs, another well-known rancher in the area) at Bald Hill, rode the nine miles to the home of the Ingles family near Duck Creek, to ask if Ingles could help out with some chores on their Half Circle S ranch. When he arrived, there was no sound when he knocked on the door of the cabin. Upon opening the door, he found Ingles and his wife lying on the floor, shot perhaps a week before. When he turned to leave, he heard a faint cry. He found the Ingles 18-month old baby, Frank, lying on the floor in the rear of the house. The baby was so weak with hunger from lack of food and water, he was unable to crawl and could scarcely cry. Food and water had been placed on the floor near the baby several days before, but the dishes were empty. Clinton revived the child. The search for the murderer brought in a one-armed Euchee Indian man who was tried and convicted. It was said that the Indian confessed to the murder before his execution..."

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS—

By the CN Legal Counsel, Office of Justice

The Board of Directors of Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) has identified types of cases which will be preferred for acceptance by OILS attorneys during 1987. The five priority areas are Indian housing, particularly problems involving mutual help homes, natural resources problems involving trust and restricted Indian land, Indian child welfare issues, including some cases where the state is seeking removal of a child from the home and uncontested adoptions, tribal sovereignty issues, including tribal code development; and and issues involving individual rights, such as health care issues, issues involving social security and other federal benefits where restricted or trust property is involved, Indian Civil Rights Act issues, and issues involving certificate of degree of Indian blood.

OILS is a federally-funded non-profit corporation which provides free legal services to eligible low income Indian clients in civil actions OILS is also allowed federal regulation to serve tribes, where the tribe or organization shows it does not have the resources to hire legal counsel and presents an Indian law issue, and OILS may provide legal services consistent with program priorities and guidelines established by the Board of Directors. Also, applicable federal regulation allows OILS to use tribal funds for "the purposes for which they were provided."

OILS attorneys circuit ride to a number of locations to meet with potential clients, including, Tahlequah, Ponca City, Ada, Okmulgee, Lawton/Anadarko, Tulsa, Durant, Seminole and Concho.

Persons who have a legal problem which they believe fits in one of the OILS case priority areas may contact the OILS paralegal, by calling (405) 528-5500 collect between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The paralegal will assist the attorneys in deciding whether the applicant for services will be scheduled for an appointment with an attorney at a convenient location. OILS cannot accept all cases falling in one of the five broad priority areas due to its small attorney staff, and attorneys must follow more detailed written guidelines in determining whether to accept a case falling in one of the broad priority areas. OILS does not provide any representation in criminal matters.

CREEK NATION

***WEDDING VOWS WERE EXCHANGED APRIL 3, 7:00 P.M. IN THE MOUND BUILDING** between Kathy Brown, Okmulgee and Vince Polen, Okmulgee. Kathy is employed with the Creek Nation Manpower office. The couple will make their home in Okmulgee. Members of the wedding party include; left to right, Kimberly Polen, Mindy Brown, Dicey Barnett, and Donna Ramsey, Matron of Honor, Mr. and Mrs. Vince Polen, Todd Tovar, Best Man, Scott Polen, Herb Green and Mark Bruner, Groomsmen.*

Letter From Evangelist Ernest Best...

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent? " Romans 10:13,14,15.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations..." Matthew 28:19

We praise God we had a pastor who had a burden for reaching people for the Lord and had a love for missions. He was a man who preached and taught the word of God, and lived what he taught. This man had a greater impact on our lives than anyone else in the world. We loved him and shall be eternally grateful to him. That beloved pastor recently went to be with the Lord. His passing was a great personal loss to us, and to many others, but his ministry continues through those trained under his ministry. This ministry to the North American Indians is a testimony to his faithful teaching, as well as "second generation" missionaries, Bro. Gary Hawkins, and his wife, Paula, who God raised up under our ministry, and are now serving on the Blackfeet Reservation, in Montana. Praise God for pastors, who are faithful to preach, teach and live according to God's word and have a burden for missions. God is always faithful to honor his word. "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and your fruit should remain..." John 15:16.

I spent April in the western states. The first week was spent in First Indian Baptist, Albuquerque, N.M. God gave a great meeting. There were large crowds, good music and good fellowship. There were people who came for salvation and recommittment of their lives to Christ, confessing sin, and claiming forgiveness and victory in their lives. It was a particular blessing to see the change in one Navajo man's life. After he recommitted himself to Christ, real peace and joy flowed from him. I was in Los Angeles, Ca., the second week, in First Indian Baptist Church of South Gate. That church was in real need of revival. Satan had been at work discouraging and tearing down the people of God. Near the end of the week people, both men and women, started responding to the moving of God's Spirit. On Easter Sunday, we experienced a real spirit of victory. As I was preparing to leave, the pastor said to me, "God has given revival and we are now prepared to go back into the fight for our people."

I then flew on to Montana to be with Bro. Gary Hawkins on the Blackfeet Reservation. It was a real joy to step from that plane and see Bro. Gary and his little family waiting for me. Bro. Gary is doing a good job there. They have been there since January and started with just his family and the Lord. It is wonderful to see what the Lord is doing through him. They need much prayers as they live under very adverse circumstances.

God honored his servant's work. By the second night there was a very good crowd. Many came for prayer and recomittment, and one 63 year old man came for salvation. He knelt, broken hearted, and wept before God, asking to save him. Praise God! What a blessing it is to be able to serve God and preach his word. Leaving at the end of a meeting is always hard, as you feel you are leaving a part of yourself there.

We have something special for this letter. The men of the First Baptist Church of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation have started supporting this iministry after we were in revival with them last October. Their pastor has requested we put a message in our letter, which we quote, "We believe in your ministry here on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation in northeastern Montana." We thank missionary, Bro. Curtis Reese for this and we thank God for Bro. and Mrs. Reese's ministry among the Sioux and Assiniboin tribes.

We thank you for your prayers and your faithful support. We shall one day see men and women from every tribe and nation stand before the Lord redeemed...the fruit that has lasted throughout eternity.

Your Missionaries to the
North American Indian
Bro. Ernest & Bennie Best

SERVING AT A BENEFIT INDIAN TACO DINNER, *held May 1 to benefit the family of Will "Sonny" Sampson, were left to right, Ester Betsouie, Norma Jean Bible and Israel Harjo. The Tacos were served at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. Sonny recently underwent a successful heart and lung transplant in a Houston, Texas hospital. The dinner was held to help his family cover travel expenses to and from the medical center. Ms. Bible said Sonny is recovering remarkably well, but he will have to remain in Houston for nearly five months. Full recovery is expected to take a year.*

Checotah Reunion—

DESCENDENTS OF

Col. Samuel Checote - once Chief of Creek Nation

WHEN

Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday May 23, 1987

WHERE

O.I.C. Building - Okmulgee Indian Community Building, take HWY 75 to Loop 56 and turn right onto 56 in front of Creek Tribal Complex, go a short distance east and turn left on Sam Checote Drive - O.I.C. Bldg. on your right.

TIME

8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. come early and stay late. We will eat at 12:30. The building has a full kitchen for our use to heat up or finish cooking any food you may bring.

Get a chance to meet and get acquainted with some of your family and visit with some you just haven't seen in a long time. PLEASE inform your brothers, sisters, sons, daughters and parents, etc. of the time, date and place of reunion. Our list of names and addresses is incomplete.

FOOD

Each family bring plenty of food and soft drinks for your family - meat, salad, and or vegetable dish and dessert. We will combine everything together - buffet style for ALL! (The families that travel long distances can make sandwiches or buy food at Deli...the MAIN thing is to COME and visit. We will collect money, to share the cost of paper plates, forks, spoons, ice, cups, tea, coffee and building (as able).

For more information call or write: Tomas Checote c/o P .O. Box 622, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447 (918/756-3336 or Lillian Checotah Washington Rt. 1 Box 904, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447 (918) 758-0679. Hope to see you there! R.S.V.P. would be appreciated.

Congratulations to our Father, Martin Luther, he celebrated his 94th birthday on January 11, 1987.

Lillian and Thomas, great-great granddaughter and grandson of Col. Sam Checote

Muskogee Indian Community News...

By Turner Harjo

The Muskogee Indian Community held its fourth Meeting of the 1987 year. The meeting was opened, the minutes read and approved. The Treasurer made the financial report; it was approved with no corrections. Old Business: The success of the wild onion dinner of March. Our group netted 358.00 from the dinner. New Business: The Arts and Crafts Fair April 11 and 12th brought $229.00

The Indian Olympic Committee had a booth at the Fair. The Committee was raising funds to send our Muskogee athletes to Okmulgee to competition in the 'Summer Games'. Newton Cole the number one basket maker during the winter's basket making class displayed some of his creations at the Fair. Mrs. Ida Wallace displayed some of her knitted wares at the Craft's show. Some of her display were pot-holders and place mats as well as other items knitted. Betty Baker displayed some of her baskets and knitted things, that she made in the basket class and the knitting class.

Nina Loftice displayed a large portion of the items at the Fair. She had flutes made by Woodrow Haney. Ceremonial pipes made of pipestone. A wide assortment of Indian pictures and post cards, ceramics beads and bone beads for the craftsmen to make chokers and craft items for the do-it-your-selfers. Nina was assisted by her mother Rhina, sister Viola and Angela. Angela wants to be a movie star and live in a castle in Hollywood. Angela worked very hard helping her mother and we believe she will make it in the movies. Lena Primeaux sold a couple of concho belts that she crafted out of ceramic beads.

Chairman Loretta Purdin and elected Community Secretary was quite pleased with the turn-out, considering the lack of support and the hard work and the hours she put into the success of the final project.

Koweta Senior Citizen's Center News...

By Eloweda Tiger

We had our regular meeting on March 18, 1987. Most of us were there since our meeting is right after lunch. Our meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month. Our meeting opened with a prayer by George Doyle, Andy Childers presiding. This day we are all relaxed as we had our wild onion dinner. We discussed the cleanliness of our restroom during commodity distributions. It was decided an announcement would be made by our President, concerning this problem during commodity day.

Rhoda Harris resigned as one of the arts and craft officers, Elizabeth Porter was voted in as her successor.

It was decided that a report of what we were doing here be sent in to the Creek Nation News.

We have service here at the center every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.

Quilting has been our major project recently. We are all working together to have a garage sale on March 27. March 27th was also the birthday dinner of the center. A beautiful chocolate cake for the birthday girls, Ethel Rogers, Carmelatta Mantooth and Eloweda Tiger.

We lost one of our people the 23rd of March, Anawake Morgan. She will be missed.

Our Senior Citizen's meeting was held on the 15th of April. After the minutes were read and approved, we discussed our Easter Egg Hunt. Nora Doyle and Lena Samples were asked to buy the prizes.

Shirley Littlehead hurt her knee and was off a few days. She is our cook. We had a volunteer cook, Janet Lipska volunteers who helped her were Rhoda Harris and Lena Samples. We appreciated all she did for us, cooking and cleaning. Many thanks from all of us, Janet, Rhoda and Lena.

We do beadwork on Monday and Thursday. Our instructor is Joe Washington, who comes from Okmulgee. We recently had our pictures published in the Coweta Times Newspaper. We exhibited our finished beaded products. Some ladies were quilting. We were pleased that the newspaper was interested in what we were doing.

Our Easter dinner was held on April 16. Janet fixed us a nice dinner with salad and cobbler. After lunch we went out to hunt eggs. Carmelitta Mantooth found the prize egg. Edna Childers placed second and Ina Childers placed first by finding the most eggs. Charley Squires won the door prize.

Everybody had a good time.

Creek Students to Attend Riverside Conference

Okemah Middleschool has been informed that Allison Berryhill and Anthony Landers, both Creek, have been selected to attend "Exploration in Creativity" conference sponsored by the American Indian Research and Development team of Norman, Oklahoma, June 14-28, 1987, at Riverside Indian School at Anadarko, Oklahoma.

Some 20 different Indian tribes will be represented as well as 12 states in which Indian students are attending.

The purpose is to provide superior enrichment in designing curriculum materials in math, science, computer education, language arts, media production, music, athletics, Indian and comtemporary dance, theatre arts, leadership, creative and critical thinking and counseling.

Allison is the daughter of Alfred and Estella Berryhill. Granddaughter of Martha Nazworthy of Sapulpa, John Berryhill of Okemah, Cindy Holahta and the late Eugene Holahta of Okemah. Her recreational interests are Pow-Wow, band, member of the New Nation Inter-Tribal-Pow-Wow club, honor roll for 4 years, member of the Greenleaf Baptist church, will be in the eighth grade.

Anthony is the son of Marvin and Jana Landers of 10th and Denver, Okemah will be a ninth grader next year, participates in most sports, member of the Landmark Baptist church and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Blackwood, Tranquillity, California, and Ornest Landers of Okemah. He has been on honor roll for three years,with five years perfect attendence until this year.

Indian Education Expo...

THE 8TH ANNUAL INDIAN EDUCATION EXPOSITION was held April 8-10 athe American Indian Institute at the University of Oklahoma, Norman. The Exposition was co-sponsored by the Oklahoma State Department of Education (Indian Ed section) and the Institute. Scheduled speakers included, Chief Cox, who joined other tribal leaders in a panel discussion on Indian education from a tribal perspective and Second Chief Perry Beaver, who gave the Keynote Address on Student Motivation. Pictured above were the Creeks in attendance at the Exposition: Emma Fish, Seminole Nation Headstart, Syl Smith, Ada Indian Education, Christine Bruner Sekayouma, Indian Education for Oklahoma City Public Schools, Nancy Fixico, Seminole Nation Headstart, Glenna Chisholm Lemon, Oklahoma City Title IV Program, Dee Lemon, student, and Pamela Montgomery, Title VI-A for Kiowa High School. Shown in the background are Gary Robinson, Creek Nation Communications Specialist, who gave a presentation on Creek cultural at the Friday workshop and Ron West, Creek, who is the Director of the Indian Education section of the Oklahoma State Dept. of Ed.

State of the American Indian Economic Development in Oklahoma Conference Set

Norman---"The State of American Indian Economic Development in Oklahoma" will be explored in a statewide conference May 27 at the University of Oklahoma. Sponsored by the Southwest Center for Human Relations Studies at OU, the conference for Indian and non-Indian leadership in both the public and private sectors will be in the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education, 1700 Asp Ave.

"The conference is designed to provide significant information on the status of American Indian economic development in Oklahoma and to explore strategies to enhance economic activity and the economic relationships between the Indian nations, the state of Oklahoma, and local communities throughout the state," said Margaret Abudu Green, director of the Southwest Center for Human Relations Studies.

A number of state and national leaders will make major presentations on Indian economic development. In addition, the economic impact of the Indian presence in the state will be assessed.

Green and OU Norman campus Provost Joan Wadlow will deliver welcoming remarks during the opening session, which will be followed by keynote addresses on "The State of the Nations Concerning Economic Development on Indian Country," by Danny Little Axe, first president of the United Indian Nations of Oklahoma, and on "Perspectives on the Role of American Indian Economic Development in the State's Future," by Neal A. McCaleb, secretary of transportation for the state.

A report on the economic impact of American Indians in the state of Oklahoma will be discussed during the morning session by Green; Kent W. Olson, professor of economics at Oklahoma State University; Karen J. Selland director of the Oklahoma State Date Center; and Iola M. Hayden, executive director of Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity.

Frank A. Ryan, deputy to the assistant secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, Indian Affairs, will speak at the noon luncheon on "The Commitment of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to Indian Economic Development."

Afternoon activities will include a plenary session on "Youth 2000: Employment Goals for Indian Youth--Generation to Generation Improvement," by Jean Elder, acting secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Concurrent panel sessions from 3 to 5 p.m. will be: ***"Indian Sovereignty· A Tool for Economic Development,"*** examining ways in which Indian sovereignty affects tribal economic development opportunities and potential in the state. Panel members will be Donald N. Brown, professor of cultural anthropology at OSU, moderator; Gary Breshears, executive director of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma; Bill Anoatubby, Lieutenant governor of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma; and Frances M. Oheltoint, tribal government service specialist, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Anadarko.

"Governments to Governments: Self-Sufficiency Through Interdependence," examining what the state, local communities and Indian nations are doing in the area of economic development and strategies to enhance these relationships. Panel members are state Sen. Enoch Kelly Haney, panel moderator; G. Douglas Fox, president and chief executive officer, Tribune/Swab-Fox Cos. Inc., Tulsa; Donald D. Paulsen, executive director, Oklahoma Department of Commerce; Gaylon Franklin Sr., second chief Sac and Fox Tribe of Oklahoma; and Jim D. Mason, executive director, Cushing Chamber of Commerce. And ***"Why Do Indian Tribes Do Economic Development,"*** examining the reasons why tribes are involved in economic development and how the benefits of economic development can be used. Panel members will react to and discuss a position paper that takes a visionary look at what Indian tribal economic development could be and the benefits for Indian persons, Indian communities and the state. Members are Kenneth Reinfelt, economist, Office of Policy and Analysis, U.S. Department of Interior, major presenter; Iola M. Hayden; Jerry Bridges area social worker, Anadarko BIA; Edgar L. French, president, Delaware Tribe of Western Oklahoma; and Allen B. Wright, Indian affairs liasion, Officer of the Governor.

Registration for the conference is $45, which includes all conference sessions and materials, luncheon, and reception. Cost for the luncheon and luncheon program is $12.50. People may pay with their advance registration, at the conference, or have OU bill them or their employer.

To register, people can contact OU Central Registration Services, 1700 Asp Ave., Norman, OK 73037; telephone 405-324-2248, or the toll-free in Oklahoma number, 1-800-522-0755. Additional information is available from the OU Southwest Center for Human Relations Studies, 555 Constitution Ave., Suite 141, Norman, Ok 73037; telephone 405-325-3936 or 325-3937 or contact Charlotte Gay.

ALEXANDER POSEY POETRY CONTEST

ELIGIBILITY

Creek students, grades 4 through 12, who are enrolled in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are eligible to enter this contest. Applicants may also reside outside the Creek Nation boundaries.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION

No more than two poems from each student. Must be very neatly printed or typed. Student name, address, school, and grade must be included on upper right hand corner. We are looking for original, creative work, and strongly encourage no use of patterned rhyming.

PRIZES

There will be six prizes awarded during the Creek Festival '87 in the following divisions: 4th through 6th grades, 7th through 9th grades, and 10th through 12th grades. Each winner will be awarded a cash prize and a certificate. There are three in each category: 1st Prize-$25; 2nd Prize-$15; and 3rd Prize-$10.

DEADLINE

1. Entries must be post marked no later than Monday, June 1, 1987.
2. Attach photocopy of Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship card.
3. Mail to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Communication Dept. Poetry Contest, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447.

Thanks to JTPA for Job...

I just wanted to let you know, that I have completed the Farrier School in Ardmore, Ok.

I started shoeing horses as soon as I got home from the school. I am very thankful for the Creek Nation and JTPA for sending me to this school. Business looks good for me.

Thanks

Steve Parish

THE SECOND ANNUAL SPRING TRAILRIDE OF THE CREEK NATION RIDING CLUB was held Friday and Saturday, April 24 and 25. Some of the riders are shown as they make their way near Nuyaka, their point of departure. Shown are; left to right, Kendall Roberts, Beverly Pigeon, Jason Leitka, Matthew Roberts and Shane Crawford.

2nd Annual Trail Ride Held by Riding Club

By Rita Williams

The Creek Nation Indian Riding club held their second annual spring trail ride April 24,25. The riding club started on Friday at 10:30 a.m. from Judy Roberts home in the Nuyaka community. They stopped that evening to pitch tents and enjoyed an outdoor barbeque at Harry and Geneva Douglas's home near Mason.

Saturday morning after breakfast, riders saddled their horses, and rode toward their destination, which was Okemah. After arriving at the Okemah rodeo grounds that afternoon, they rode in the Okemah Annual Pioneer Celebration days parade and won 2nd place.

Saturday evening the riding club participated in Okemah's rodeo riding in the grand-entry and some were contestants in the events.

This year the Creek Nation Indian Riding club will be setting pivots for the Creek Nation Rodeo in June, the Sac and Fox rodeo in July, Okmulgee rodeo, and the Region Eight in Tahlequah. Playday season will start May 2nd at 7:00 p.m at the Creek Nation Rodeo grounds every other Saturday. Anyone who wants to participate is welcome. Monthly meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month at the Creek Nation Complex in the dining room at 7:00 p.m.

Those riding were: Dusty Lynn Crawford, Glenn Jones, Christina Gasaway, Elmer Jones, J.D. Gasaway, Jennifer Beuer, Sammie Beuer, Joe Leitka, Russell Roberts, Tony Roberts, Jerome Roberts, Jerry Zink, Willie Pigeon, Carney Roberts, Floyd Jones, Laura Mason, Ernest McPerryman, Bruce Douglas, George Deeringwater, Terry Jones Jr. Harry Douglas, Roy Roberts, Bodie Robert, Randy Beuer, Sherry Botisser, Stephen Pigeon, Jeff Mahan, Renee Mahan, Christie Long, Harold Long, Dale Hardin, Austin Jones, Michele Pigeon. Others participating were: Mr. and Mrs.Jimmie Jones and sons Justin and Jerrod, Caney and Stella Roberts, Connie Gasaway, Scarlet Crawford, Liz Jones, Jackie, Harriett, Brenda and Scotty Jones, Carri Beaver, Pasty Zink, Magen and Zack Zink, Mahalae Jones, Judy Roberts, Carolyn Thomas and Albert, Pasty Pigeon, Geneva Douglas and Alisha, Norma Jones, Lorena Roberts, Sonny Ruth Roberts, C.N.Photographer,Elliott Barnett,Sandra Pigeon,Howell Grayson, Famous Marshall and son.

Wetumka Indian Community News...

By Sammie (Tubbie) Yargee

Wetumka Senior Citizens attended the 1st Annual Oklahoma Statewide Indian elders Day at Chickasaw Nation Complex in Ada on Wednesday, April 15th. They said they enjoyed the program but a little unhappy because their lunch was served late, but all in all they had a good time.

Our next big event is going to be our First Gospel singing to be held here at the Community Center on Saturday, May 16th. The Master of Ceremonies will be Benson Hicks of Okemah. The featured group are the Berryhills of Oklahoma City. All groups and singers are welcome, and bring your lawn chairs. We hope to see a lot of you here.

The Wetumka Indian Community held their monthly meeting on Monday April 6.

The Social Committee reported on the Dominoe Tournament that was held on March 14. First place trophy winners were, Amos Lowe and DeWayne Lowe. Second place winners were, Jim McKinney, Sammie (Tubby) Yargee. Third place winners were, Fred McGirt and John D. Davis. We would like to thank all those who participated in our Double Dominoe Tournament. The next tournament will be announced later.

A community Easter Egg Hunt was held for the children on Saturday, April 18 and we had a good turnout. We would like to thank Mrs. Ray McGilbray for taking the time out to speak to the children on Easter and its meaning. She also kept the children entertained while the bunnies were hiding the eggs.

STEVE WILSON, RIGHT, HONORS ALBIN LEADINGFOX, CHARTER MEMBER of OICOA, for his dedication to the Council. Wilson, Chairman of OICOA acted as MC for the Elder's Day activities and was also honored with a Plaque of Appreciation for "outstanding leadership and dedication" as Chairman of OICOA.

CREEK NATION'S SENIOR CITIZENS joined with 600 other Indian elders across the state to be honored at the First Annual Elder's Day. Some of this group are identified as follows: third from left, Mahalia Chalakee, Cora Derrisaw and Elizabeth Hanson.

First Annual Indian Elders Day Held At Chickasaw Nation April 15...

By Kathryn Bell

The First Annual Indian Elders Day was held April 15 at the Chickasaw Nation in Ada. Tribal elders were honored at the day-long event sponsored by the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging and hosted by the Chickasaw Nation. Creek Nation's Steve Wilson and ·Chairman of the OICOA, was instrumental in organizing and coordinating the event.

Wilson also served as Master of Ceremonies for the Elders Day.

In addition, the Elders Day served as an opportunity to recognize members and officers of the OICOA. Steve received a plaque in recognition of his dedication and service to OICOA, as well as Pat Woods, Vice-Chairman of the OICOA.

The program began at 9 A.M. with Registration, followed by an Invocation and Posting of the Colors by Roderick Red Elk and Haddon Codynah, Comanche codetalkers. Milton Sovo led the Comanche Flag Song.

Governor Overton James of the Chickasaw Nation gave the Welcome - "As our youth are our future, our elders are our past and present. The elders have shown us how to live,how to improve our lot and how to leave a better world for those who follow. Perhaps no one has said it better than Chief Dan George, who said, 'If the very old will remember, the very young will listen.' We are meeting today so that the young will continue to learn from our elders. You have taught us much, yet your value has no bounds. We honor each of you and welcome you to the Chickasaw Nation..."

Lt. Governor Bill Anoatubby, of the Chickasaw Nation, introduced tribal leaders and special guests. Among them was State Senator E. Kelly Haney, who shared his memories of family elders, as well as stressing the need for involvement to the approximately 600 elders gathered, on behalf of issues that affected them. Throughout Haney's presentation, which was light and informal, he commended the elders on their contribution to the survival of Indian culture - "We appreciate the value system you have given us and the hope you have given our young people."

Curtis Cook, Executive Director of the National Indian Council on Aging (NICOA), spoke to the elders on the work on their behalf that NICOA and the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging had been accomplishing since these organizations began - "The Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging has taken the lead in Washington to see that your needs are met..." Cook termed these needs simply as "respect and dignity to live out your lives in comfort because you are entitled to this."

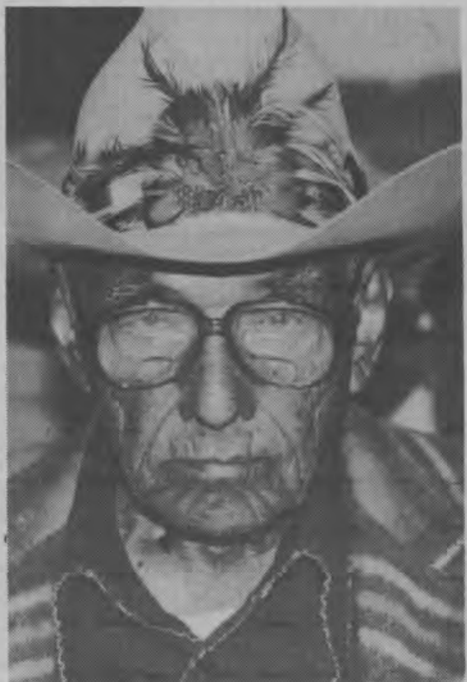
Cook, in addressing the inadequacy and delay of government in developing a policy on the unique needs of Indian elderly, recounted how in 1971, it was found that a system of coordinating federal and state services was needed so that the Indian elderly could be better served. Out of discussion, held that year in oversight hearings in Arizona, the nucleus of NICOA was formed. In 1972, when there was still no formal policy addressing these needs of Indian elderly, the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging and NICOA and a coalition of Title VI grantees got together and formed a policy to do this, "and this group continued to work on a national policy that addresses these needs in a coordinated manner, under the direction of God, our parents, our tribes and our people, " emphasized Cook. "But we are a little late, but we must not delay any further because many of elders are already gone and will be gone." The national policy Cook referred to is an amendment including Indian elders to the reauthorized Older Americans Act. This bill was introduced into the Senate after Easter. "Indian elders are the most deprived group in our population - no other ethnic group in our nation has the needs that our Indian elders have..." concluded Cook seriously.

BEN AND MOLLIE WILSON, HOLDENVILLE, WERE AMONG THE MANY CREEK ELDERS, that attended Elder's Day. The couple are the parents of OICOA Chairman Steve Wilson.

Albin Leadingfox, who gave the Benediction at the Elders Program was honored as a charter member of OICOA by Steve Wilson and was presented an eagle feather by Haddon Codynah for his dedication as a "loyal member and warrior of OICOA." Leadingfox, in his eighties has been recovering from pneumonia and was released from the hospital the previous day.

Other awards given included: Rudy Cleghorn and Paul Stabler of OICOA presented awards by Steve Wilson for their dedication to that organization, Randall Durant, Choctaw, presented with an award by Steve Wilson, for his founding work of OICOA, as well as Durant receiving an award for Outstanding Elderly Program among his tribe. Dina Cantrell, on the Choctaw Council from Pittsburg County, also received an award for her work with the elderly. Bill Shelack, her work with the elderly. Bill Sherlack, Senator Nickles spokesman, received an award on behalf of Nickles from OICOA on his efforts for Indian elderly on a national level.

After a delicious meal, an Egg Hunt with over 2,000 eggs, was held on the Chickasaw Nation grounds. Sam Stool and Judy Deer awarded the Egg Hunt prizes. The Chickasaw Cats. a band formed from among the participants of the Chickasaw Nation's senior citizens program, entertained at the Elder's Day.



SANDY RANDALL, 81-YEAR OLD CREEK FROM WELEETKA, was among the state's Indian elderly who were honored by a host of speakers on their special day.

Introduction of Amendment to the "Older Americans Act" Will Benefit Indians

NOTE: The following statements on the proposed amendment to the Older Americans Act (Older Americans Indian Services Improvement Act) were made on behalf of Senator Don Nickles by Legislative Assistant Perry Cain in Washington D.C. by MNN telephone interview and by Steve Wilson, Manager of the CN Community Research & Development Administration. Wilson is also the Chairman of the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging, Chairman of the National Title VI Grantees Association and Chairman of the National Indian Aging Policy Working group which was instrumental in finalizing the National Indian Aging Policy into legislative form, which was formally introduced on the floor of the Senate by Senator Jeff Bingamon (D-New Mexico) April 22. Bingamon's presentation is printed below as well.

"Through this legislation, we are trying to show the Administration on Aging that Congress is concerned about the unique problems of Indian elderly. When the legislation becomes law with the passage of this bill, we may not change attitudes but the amendment to the Older Americans Act will be adhered to by mandate of law...Indian elderly should receive the same level and quality of services that non-Indian elderly now have. We feel the Administration on Aging has not been fully aware of the importance of Title VI programs or the unique cultural differences of Indian elderly." ***—Perry Cain, Senator Nickle's Office***

In 1980, the Creek Nation received its first funding from the administration on Aging (AoA). Title VI-"Grants to Indian Tribes" in the amount of $100,000. Disappointment fell upon the Creek Nation administration and to those who had advocated for this program because of the low level of funding being doled out to tribal governments throughout the nation. Funding was adequate for only one (1) nutrition site leaving many elders without these services.

In 1984, the administration on aging decided to fund 42 new tribes throughout the country. Original grantees including the Creek Nation received as much as $20,000 cut in funding to fund the new grantees. Cries of complaints fell on deaf ears in the administration on aging. Insensitivity in AoA was more evident when request for an increase for funding levels from congress were ignored and meetings with the Commission on Aging resulted in total frustration also.

The Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging then embarked on a long road to put on workshops at National Conferences that administers to the elderly. Many people in the non-Indian Aging network became sympathetic to our words and to our cause. In August, 1985, after putting on a workshop in Washington, D.C., Indian Aging advocates from Oklahoma, New Mexico and Washington State sat down and planned a National Title VI Association. This association was formally organized in March, 1986 at Alburquerque, N.M.

This association joined with its mother organization the National Indian Council on Aging, to formulate a unique Indian Policy on Aging. In Sept. 1986 in Phoenix at the National Indian Conference on Aging, two important resolutions were adopted (1) adoption of this policy and (2) establishment of a national working group to finalize the policy.

The national working groups planned strategy on how we would finalize this policy. The first step was to meet with the Commissioner on Aging so that she could spearhead the enactment of this policy. In November, 1986, the working group met with her and again were frustrated by her words,"I'm not going to do anything until its legislated for me to do so."

The following day we met with the Senate Committee on Aging staff of these senators including Senator Nickles (Perry Kane) who held hearings in Oklahoma City, June 1986 and Senator Bingamon (Faith Roessell) of N.M. and Brian Lindberg of Rep. Biaggi, N.Y., and Bill Benson of Rep. Bonker, Washington staff, worked with the working group to develop this policy into legislative form.

In March, 1987, the working group met in Albuquerque, N.M. with Faith Roessell, Bingamon's aide, to develop and implement amendments to the Older Americans Act from this policy. A bill we call "Older American Indian Services Improvement Act" was developed and introduced in the senate and House of Representatives.

A call nationwide to all tribes and Title VI grantees has gone out to gather support for this legislation. In Oklahoma, Senator Nickles is commended for his co-sponsor of the bill. Letters from Oklahoma need to be written to our Representatives in the House to support H.R. 2163. Senator Boren's office has called and stated that he would support and co-sponsor this bill also.

—Steve Wilson, Chairman, OICOA

HADDON CODYNAH, COMANCHE CODETALKER, presents the American Flag at the Posting of the Colors preceding the activities, a remainder of our Indian elders who fought and died for the nation they loved and honored.

Sen. Bingamon's Bill—

Mr. President, I am very pleased to introduce this legislation, the "Older American Indian Service Improvement Act" which amends the Older American Act currently under reauthorization this year. I'm pleased that companion legislation is being introduced in the house by Rep.'s Biaggi and Bonker. I am joined in the Senate by my colleague, Mr. Nickles, who I commend for his leadership in addressing the adequacy of services for Indian tribes under the Older Americans Act.

The Subcommitte on Aging during the last reauthorization of the Older Americans Act designed in report language that it join with the Special Committee on Aging to hold oversight hearings on Title VI, the Indian Grant program under the Older Americans Act. Through testimony developed at two hearings sponsored by the Special Committee on Aging, one on the health concerns of Indian elderly, and a second, on the delivery of Title IV services, a substantial record has been laid to justify this legislation being introduced today. For greater detail I recommend that staff look to these two committee prints.

These two hearings confirm that older American Indians remain among our countrys most impoverished citizens. They live at a rate of poverty between 33 percent to as high as 83 percent, varying from reservation to reservation. Inadequate and inaccessible health care, lack of transportation, dilapidated housing, and the rural environment of the majority of older reservation Indians add to an already difficult way of life.

Title VI of the Older Americans Act was added in 1978 as a way of delivering services to the American Indian population, but it did not get underway until 1980. Since that time it has grown from 85 to 124 grantees. What has become increasingly evident is the lack of coordination with other sections of the Act, inattention to Indian grantees by the Office of State and Tribal programs, and ambiguity about tribal eligibility for other titles in the Older Americans Act.

Mr. President, I will briefly describe how my bill amends the Older Americans Act to address some of these issues. When Title VI was enacted it did not lay out a statement of purpose nor findings of fact, nor any overall policy statement. These sections have been added to emphasize congressional intent and support.

The major addition to Title VI is the creation of an Office of Tribal programs which will administer and oversee the Title VI program. Currently, that program comes under the Office of State and Tribal programs. This legislation merely separates out an Indian office and designates an Associate Commissioner on Indian Aging--an "Indian Desk," if you will. I feel very strongly that unless such an office is established improvements to the Title VI program will not take place. I believe we have given the Administration on Aging (AoA) an opportunity to establish this office and to make corrections on their own and it has yet to do so. During the last reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, I agreed to withdraw my "Indian Desk" amendment on the assurance AoA that it would create such a position with advice and support from Indian tribes. Much to my dismay this did not happen as agreed. For this reason, I believe that Congress should designate an office to assure greater accountability from AoA to the Indian grantees. Title VI is further amended to specify that the Associate Commissioner on Indian Aging also establish an Interagency Task Force on Older American Indians and produce a study of the availability and quality of services for older American Indians.

One of the major roadblocks for Indians in gaining access in services under the Older Americans Act is the lack of coordination between Title III, State Grant, and Title VI, Indian Grants. With the Indian population fairly evenly divided--52 percent living on the reservation and 48 percent in urban areas--service providers need to know who are eligible. Therefore, this bill deletes the condition that Title VI grantees are not to serve persons eligible for Title III services. I can understand the original intent of this language--to avoid "Double Dipping". As was brought out very clearly in a special committee on aging hearing held by Senator Nickles, and echoed at the hearing I chaired on health issues facing older Indians, greater coordination needs to take place between Title III and Title VI. Therefore, opening up access to Title III allows equity for those off the reservation who may be eligible for such services.

To further ensure increased coordination a new section is added to Title III to clarify and require improved monitoring of services between these two titles. Additions include specifying that Indian elders will not be denied Title III services, and that area agencies on aging with a significant Indian population shall conduct outreach activities to identify older American Indians living within their planning and service area. Further, the newly designated Associate Commissioner on Indian Aging shall have some oversight to recommend to the Commissioner the delivery of services and coordination between Title III and Title VI.

Because older American Indians suffer from chronic unemployment, this legislation also calls for targeting of employment services to older Indians under Title V, Community Service Employment. A recent survey conducted by the National Indian Council on Aging shows that 1.6 percent of the total positions available by the national contractors and state agencies on aging were filled by older Indians. Older American Indians have the lowest rate among all ethnic groups to access employment services under Title V. This bill mandates that at the next available opportunity for national grants or contracts, that older American Indians be emphasized.

This legislation also amends Title IV, training and research, to open up grants and contracts to agencies and organizations representing minorities. Adequate in-service training and instruction on the particular needs of older Americans of ethnic backgrounds remain a priority that will hopefully be addressed by a more equitable distribution of Title IV funding.

The bill provides for an increase in authorization that will bring the funding back to its 1984 levels. In 1984, 43 new Title IV grantees were added to the previous 83 grantees. This accounted for drastic reductions that on average amounted to $20,000 for each previously funded grantee, however, in my state of New Mexico some Title VI programs experienced 70 percent reductions and one Title VI grantee had to discontinue its program. Because of the inadequate funding levels for Title VI, these programs have not been able to provide services commensurate to Title III. I am hopeful with this increased authorization that the quality of service will improve and that more older Indians will be served.

Mr. President, with the strong support of its distinguished house sponsors and the support of my colleagues in the senate, I am hopeful that this legislation will be incorporated into the overall reauthorization bill of the Older Americans Act. I look forward to working with my colleague from Hawaii, Mr. Matsunaga, and thank him for holding hearings this Thursday on the problems of Older American Indians and other minority groups.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, in particular those who have large Indian populations in their states. The legislation has the support of the National Indian Council on Aging and organizations of Title VI programs. It has been developed with the backing and assistance of a National Coalition of tribal groups.

—OBITUARIES—

BESSIE SORETHUMB

Indian prayer services for Bessie Fife Sorethumb, champion archer, were at 7 p.m. Monday at the Heath-Griffith Funeral Home Chapel in Tulsa.

Mrs. Sorethumb, 90, died Saturday of injuries sustained in a traffic accident three weeks ago.

Funeral services were at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Heath-Griffith, with the burial at the Post Oak Cemetery in Prattville.

Mrs. Sorethumb, who took up archery when she was 57, was once the champion woman archer in Oklahoma. Arkansas, Missouri and Texas. She retired from competition when she was 81.

She learned to shoot from her husband, the late Kendall Sorethumb, who won first and second places in national archery contests. He also was an Arapaho dancer. He died in 1958.

"I used to follow him and look for the arrows in the weeds," she once said. He began teaching her in the spring of 1954. "I learned by moving back five feet at a time."

In the fall of 1954, she won third place in a tournament in Memphis, proving she was a "natural" shot.

Her specialty was "instinctive field shooting," in which the archer does not use sights on the bow. Over the years, she collected more than a hundred archery trophies.

In 1978, Mrs. Sorethumb, a full-blooded Creek Indian, won third place in the Creek Nation archery tournament and also was named best Creek sportsman of the year.

She was a life member of the Tulsa Archery Club, and the Tulsa Archery Tournament offered the Bessie Sorethumb Traveling Trophy in her honor.

Mrs. Sorethumb also did extensive bead work, creating various ceremonial costumes, belts, moccasins and other items. She taught both archery and bead work.

In 1980, she received an outstanding service award from the Native American Coalition of Tulsa.

She served 18 years on the Creek Nation Council.

She is survived by two grandsons; Bruce Anderson, of Richardson, Texas, and Stuart Anderson, of Dallas, Texas.

VIRGIL THEODORE LYNN

Services were held for Virgil T. Lynn age 84 on Saturday, April 25. Lynn was a resident of Beggs, Ok. He was born on August 26, 1902 in Mounds, I.T. He was a member of the First Baptist Church of Mounds.

He is survived by three sons, Virgil, Buck and Dale, all of Beggs; seven granchildren and seventeen great-grandchildren.

Pall bearers were C.E. Madison, Bill Cumby, C.R. Woods, Herbert Wilson, Billy Paul Anderson and Robert J. Anderson. Honorary pallbearers were Odie Atkinson, Roy Dickens, David Cowan, R.C. Price, Antone Copenhaver and R.C. Anderson.

Officating the service at the First Baptist Church of Mounds was Rev. Jim Ray. Interment was in the Duck Creek Cemetery.

YAHOLA TIGER

Yahola Tiger, age 65, Eufaula, Ok., was born Feb. 2, 1922 at Vian, Ok. and died April 17, 1987 at Muskogee Medical Center. He attended grade school at Bacone and received further education at Missouri Military Academy in Mexico, Mo. He entered the service in June, 1942, serving in the Southwest Pacific. He served with the 70th Anti Aircraft along with the first Air CAV. He was awarded the Phillipine Liberation Ribbon with one star and the Bronze Arrowhead. This was for one battle,there were four major battles besides this in different islands in the Southwest Pacific. He served three and one-half years.

His grandsons served as palibearers and honorary pallbearers were members of the Eufaula VFW Post 8798 where he was a member. He was the son of the late Miller and Katie Scott Tiger, well known full blood Creeks. He was married to Harriet Scott at Eufaula on January 7, 1942. She is the daughter of Susie and the late Rev. Bennie B. Scott, all full-blood Creeks and members of Eufaula-Canadian and Quarsarty No. 1 Tribal Towns respectfully.

He was baptized by Daniel Phillips, Sr. in June 1967 at Artussee Indian Baptist Church. His favorite songs were "Day is Dying in the West" and "Nearer My God To Thee". He had alot of favorite scriptures, but the one he liked most was the 23rd Psalm. He would sing Creek songs with Emma Lewis when she would come to visit. She was the only member that was close to him from his church. Jr. Phillips always came to visit him, encourage him and pray for him.

Ella Mae known as Scottina Jackson of Cromwell was his first cousin, but he claimed her as his sister. He had four half brothers: George Fox, Miller R. Tiger, Dennis Tiger and Johnnie Tiger.

He is survived by his wife, five sons, Yahola Jr., of Tahlequah, Benjamine of Anadarko, George of Midwest City, Jon Mark and Mitchell, both of Eufaula. Seven daughers, Anna Phillips, Judith Pickering, Benita Tiger, and Jeraldean Tiger, all of Eufaula. Mary Kaulay of Checotah, Mariena Eslick of Amarillo, Tx. and Serena Brown of Indianola. Thirty grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Two of his grandchildren, Robert and Norman were raised by Harriet and Yahola. He was preceded in death by one daughter, Susan Elaine.

Yahola was loved by many people. They came to the hospital with condolences, concern and prayers. They asked about him, waiting patiently outside the hospital awaiting word of his condition. His condition worsened and he was transferred to Muskogee Regional Hospital where he passed at 9:30 a.m. April 17.

A Wake Service was held at West Eufaula Church with graveside services conducted with military honors by Eufaula VFW Post 8798.

BESSIE FIFE

Mrs. Bessie Fife, 77-year old resident of Henryetta, died Saturday, May 9, in Okmulgee.

She was born Oct. 25, 1909 in Henryetta.

Survivors include four sons, Arthur Powell of Bristow, George Thompson and Timmy Thompson, both of Henryetta, and Johnny Frye of Del City; one daughter, Sally Thompson of Henryetta; four brothers, Shorty Frye, Loney Frye, Harbie Frye, and Sam Frye Jr., all of Henryetta; one step-son, Robert Fife of Tulsa; and 11 grandchilren.

Graveside services were held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 13 at the Harjo Cemetery, 1 1/8 mile south of Salem, with Rev. Robert Jones officiating.

Mrs. Fife's body was taken to her residence at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Arrangements were under the direction of Shurden Funeral Home.

SALLIE GOUGE

Sallie Espaniard Gouge, 70-year-old resident of Hanna died Friday, May 8.

Sallie Espaniard was born Jan. 15, 1917 in Dustin was raised in the Dustin and Hanna area. She attended Hanna schools and married Albert Gouge in 1945 in McIntosh County. A lifelong homemaker, she was a member of the Trenton Indian Baptist church.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday May 12, at the Trenton Indian Baptist Church in Hanna with Rev. Frank Billy. Interment was in the Gouge Family Cemetery under the direction of Blacks Funeral Home of Eufaula.

Pallbearers were, Lawrence Josie, Bill Deo, Jr., Wallace Deo, George Tiger, Robert Francis,and Paul Haynes.

Survivors include her husband, Albert Gouge of the home, six daughters, Elizabeth Townsend of Okmulgee, Evelyn Woods of Oklahoma City, Nancy Deere of Okemah, Kristine Gouge of Washington, D.C., and Hellen Gouge and Peggy Gouge, both of the home; four sons, Wilbur Gouge of Oklahoma City, Wilford Gouge of Los Angeles, Cal., and William Gouge and Earnest Gouge, both of the home; three sisters, Jo Ann Hill of Okemah and Sarah Haynes and Judy Proctor, both of Weleetka; one brother, Lewis Fish of Oklahoma City; and six grandchildren.

ROY HARRY

Roy Harry was born July 16, 1900, at Hectorville, in Indian Territory and died May 8, 1987 in the Okmulgee Memorial Hospital, Okmulgee, Okla.

Wake services were Sunday night, May 10, at 7 p.m. in the Leonard Funeral Chapel,Bixby Okla, with Rev. Raymond Jarvis officiating.

Funeral services were held May 11, at 10 a.m. at the Leonard Chapel with the Rev. Roy J. Bigpond and Rev. George Doyle officiating. Special music was by Rev. Negiel Bigpond.

Roy Harry was preceded in death by parents; Simon Harry and Rebecca Fox Harry; wife, Ada Fox Harry and son, Marchie Harry.

Surviving family, two sons, Simon Harry, and Virgil Harry both of Mounds. Two daughters; Etheleen Harry of Mounds, and Audrey Rabbit of Glenpool. One first cousin, Viola Thomas of Tulsa. He had 22 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were his grandsons, Cecil Harry, Randy Harry, Robbie Harry, Wayne Harry, Troy Lee Rabbit, and Joe Watashe.

Roy Harry was a member of Snake Creek Baptist Church.

Thank you to all of the friends and relatives who showed your gratitude and kindness during our time of sorrow. A special "MVTO" to Rev. Roy J. Bigpond, Rev. George Doyle, and Rev. Raymond Jarvis for the inspiring sermons. Also, our sincere appreciation to Highland Park nursing home and Okmulgee Memorial hospital for the loving care of our beloved father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. God Bless you.

The family of Roy Harry.

COMING BACK TO OKLAHOMA DURING WILD ONION SEASON *became a sentimental journey for two Creek women born and raised in the Creek Nation. Connie Alexander Dobbs, left, and her mother, Stella Partridge White, 78, who both live in Las Vegas, were photographed while they were here at Creek Nation.*

Creek Student Places In Spring Livestock Show

Janita Screechowl, daughter of Ed and Janice Screechowl, Sapulpa, placed two reserve grand champion lambs in the hampshire and crossbred divisions of the 1987 Sapulpa FFA Spring Livestock Show. She placed a blue ribbon lamb in the hampshire division and her crossbred lamb placed third in it's division . Her hampshire lamb also made the premium sales. Only 16 of the 97 lambs present at the show were selected for the premium sales.

Janita's lamb was purchased by Dr. John Carletti, Sapulpa dentist. Janita was also a member of the Sapulpa FFA team which placed second in the three-member school lamb judging division.

Janita is also a member of the Sapulpa High School Marching Band, one of the nine high school bands invited to march in the 1987 Orange Bowl Parade in Miami.

Janita is a freshman at Sapulpa Junior High and is president of the Lone Star Senior 4-H Club. She is the granddaughter of Jo Factor, Stroud, and Angie Screechowl, Bryant.

Birth Announcement...

NORMA JEAN BIGPOND

Gene and Linda Bigpond of Sapulpa announce the birth of their fourth daughter Norma Jean, born on April 2, 1987 at the City of Faith Hospital. Norma weighed 8lbs.71/2 oz.

Grandparents are: Claude and Lilly Cox of Okmulgee and Roy and Harriett Bigpond of Tulsa, Okla. Norman and Juanita Jefferson of Talihina.

Norma was welcomed home by her three sisters, Lilly, Amy and Jennifer.

Leadership Forum for Urban Indians

National Indian Leadership from throughout the United States are to take their concerns into the living rooms of millions of Americans as well as additional foreign viewers under an exclusive television and film agreement with a national media production company. The professional American Indian leaders from urban centers from across the United States will be meeting in Orlando, Florida on May 31 and June 1, 1987 at the Radisson Inn. Their meeting, highlighting Strategies on Economic Development Systems,is the first time leadership will meet to dialogue on: Urban Economic Development Projects; Funding; Public Relations between Indian and non-Indian groups; Policy Issues of the Reagan Administration and national political matters.

Under the agreement entered into by the Forum sponsors, the Advanced Native Americans, the entire Forum is to be packaged for national and overseas distribution for television. According to one of the conference organizers; "This is the first time the urban Indian leadership of this country has been afforded the opportunity to get their messages and concerns directly to the American public. Dialogue with the government has to date been useless. While our people are starving in the cities and having their culture disseminated by federal policies and practices, the U.S. Congress is being told how rosy things are out here in Indian Country. Now we can go straight to the voter, the American public and tell them exactly how it is, what we need, and what we are doing. The public so far has been overwhelmingly interested in what we have had to say."

The urban Indian leadership meeting is slated for May 31 and June 1, 1987 in Orlando, Florida at the Radisson Inn (1-800-843-9409). Registration fee is $65.00 per person. The Forum is sponsored by the ANA (Advanced Native Americans, Inc.), a

Annual Homecoming At Jones Academy

The date is Saturday and Sunday, May 30 and 31 for the Jones Academy Annual Homecoming. Again we will be opening our dormitory and kitchen for the convenience of our former students, friends and employees. Or if they prefer, camping out is permitted at the lake area. A Men's Fast Pitch Softball Tournament is being scheduled and a Fishing Tournament. A Special Banquet and dance is on tap for Saturday evening. NO CHARGE for food and lodging, but donations will be accepted to the Jones Academy Alumni Assoc. Make plans now to attend. 918-297-2518.

—NOTICE—

For several years the Communications Department has provided free video duplication services of programs produced by the Department upon request. However, due to budget cutbacks and equipment maintenance costs, we are charging $5 for each video program duplicated. There are 17 programs now available from the department on Creek subjects and more will be produced in the future. Please contact Gary Robinson at 756-8700 ext 310 for questions or more detailed information.

ANITA FREEMAN was recently honored on Secretary's Day by the CN Communications Department with whom she has worked for nine years. Anita resides in Okmulgee with her two daughters, Sehoya 13 and LeeAnn 11. WE APPRECIATE YOU!

2nd Annual Inhalant Abuse Conference

By Rita Williams

The 2nd Annual National Native American Conference on Inhalant Abuse was held April 20-22 at the Sheraton Kensington Hotel in Tulsa. The conference was sponsored by the American Indian Institute University of Oklahoma.

Morning Star Alcohol, Drug and Inhalant Awareness program attended the three-day conference. With the Awareness Program, the Outreach is developing a "Parents Supporting Parents" program designed to meet the needs of familys in distress. The program will also educate parents in, drug abuse and what symptoms to watch for, to recognize what normal adolescent behavior is, how to communicate with your teens, peer pressure and other problems related to adolescents.

Many parents are concerned about alcohol and drug usage, but find themselves 'helpless' at times on how to confront these issues. While other parents may find that communication is almost impossible, they become frustrated and homelife becomes a battleground.

There are many questions parents have today concerning their teens and through these support groups, they are brought out. Parents then find they are not alone, but together with those sharing the same frustrations and problems. An open-line of communication from adolescent to parents and parents to adolescent will open up an avenue for both to work by.

Keynote presentors and speakers for the conference were, Marva Randolph, Canoncito IHS Clinic, Canoncito, NM addressing "The World of Inhalants: Teenage View of the problem." Luis Iberra, Director, Community Network for Youth, Phoenix, Arizona addressing "What We Can Do As A Community In Relationship To Inhalant Abuse" and "How to get youth involved in prevention planning." Deborah Jones-Saumty, M.S Department of Mental Health., Oklahoma City, Okla and Pamela J. Thurman M.S. Childrens Medical Center, Tulsa, Okla-addressing "Psychological Profiles of American Indian Inhalant Years: Implications for Treatment." Lawrence H. Hart, Coordinator, Western Regional CASSP, New Horizon, Clinton, Okla-addressing "Inhalant Abuse Prevention Strategies in Tribal Action Programs."Judith Hammer, Director Center for Child and Family Development-addressing "Growing up Strong: A Mental Wellness and Chemical Abuse Prevention Program for Preschoolers." Marlene Echohawk, Ph.D. Clinical Comprehensive Health, Chinle, Arizona-addressing "Harmful Effects of Inhalant Abuse Among American Indian Families." Murray "Red" Roubideaux, CADC Indian Action Center, Shawnee, Okla-addressing "The Fetal Alcohol Syndrome." E.R. Oetting, Ph.D. Western Behavioral Studies, Colorado State University-addressing "The Personal, Social and Psychological Factors Underlying Inhalant Use." Fred Beauvais, Ph.D, Western Behavioral Studies, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado-addressing "Trends in the Use of Inhalants Among American Indian Adolescents."

Those attending the conference from the Outreach were, Gwen Harry, Negiel Bigpond, Jack Sunagoowie, Mary Ross and Rita Williams. They are currently attending O.U seminars to become Certified Counselors in drug and alcohol abuse.

The Drug Awareness Program is available to come to your community, church, organization school, or to your home if you are in need of counseling or questions you have that you feel are confidential.

For more information you may phone (918) 366-3300 or write, Morning Star Outreach, P.O. Box 97, Bixby, Okla. 74008.

CREEK NATION

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JUNE 19, 20, 1987 - 8 p.m.

JUNE 21, 1987 - 2 p.m.

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50/50 POT - EACH NIGHT!

$7,500 PRIZE MONEY

EVENT	PRIZE MONEY	ENTRY FEE
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Bareback Bronc Riding	**$1000**	**60.**
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Barrel Racing	**$1000**	**60.**
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Calf Roping Sat. & Sun.-50 years or older	**$200**	**$25.**

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14 & under Junior Events:
$10 Entry Fee - $50 Prize Money
Friday & Saturday Steer Riding & Barrel Racing - 3 Performances

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Katie Williams - Secretary, Books open June 8, 2:00 p.m.- 10 p.m.
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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 7 July 1987 Issue 20 Pages

Chief Cox Will Run For Fifth Term!

By Helen Chalakee

CHIEF COX ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTIONS TO RUN FOR A FIFTH TERM RECENTLY TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL. Shown with the Council immediately following his announcement, Chief exchanges a friendly quip with Council Representative Irene Cleghorn about seeing each other in January.

Principal Chief Claude Cox made his official announcement for candidacy to a fifth term as Creek Chief to the Muscogee National Council after the Council had met for a planning session and a Special Called Meeting on July 15.

Chief Cox told the Council it was nearinq election time and many inquiries were coming into his office as to his plans. He said he wanted the Council to be the first to officially know that he intended to run.

He also told the Council he would not be making any endorsements for anyone to any office this time around. In the past, both the Chief and the Council would unofficially run a slate of candidates.

In a later interview with the Chief he said, "I honestly believe the Creeks are capable of taking care of their business. . .they don't need me or anybody else telling them who is the better candidate."

Chief Cox talked about the Creek tribal government and how it had matured in the sixteen years since he was first elected in 1971. "The National Council is the closest connection to the Chief's office. . .that's why I felt it was important for them to hear from the horse's mouth and then we could all stop trying to second guess each other as to my plans," he said. "Collectively, the Chief and the Council have to defend the rights of the tribe."

"In review of history, the loss of various tribe's rights have occured when the Chief and the Council did not work together. This was true even with the Creeks when we were removed to Indian Territory. . .there will always be some disagreements, but it is extremely important that we never disagree on the protection of this tribe's sovereign rights- if we do, then we are in danger of becoming nothing more than a Kiwanis Club."

"There is a constant ongoing threat to our tribal rights from certain individuals from both the state and federal government who would like nothing better than to see our rights as Indian people legally taken away from us and just for their own devious purposes- just read the newspapers. All tribes across the United States are under constant attack," the Chief said. "I can't just ignore this problem and spend all my time campaigning simply because I'm up for reelection." . That's why political game playing and carrying endorsements are out of the question for me. As I said, I believe the Creeks are well informed as to the issues we face as a tribal government and I have the confidence in them that they will elect the best people for the job," commented Chief Cox.

"Personality conflicts are always going to be around," the Chief said laughingly. . . "that's Indian." On a more serious note, he went on to say that past performances in both public and private lives are what voters tend to look at and judge whether candidates should be elected- "I can't endorse anyone and try to make a hero out of them unless that's what the people want,". . ."if there's one thing I have learned in this office- that right or wrong, it's the Creek people who either suffer or prosper from decisions made at the tribal government level; but, the voter's are responsible for who they put in office to make those decisions."

". . .I feel good about the coming election. We don't have to bog it down with endorsements and personality conflicts. . .we often see this happen in tribal elections," he said. "In my opinion, this is going to be one of the most important elections we've ever had because issues, rather than personalities, are going to be at stake. . .the Creeks can't be fooled by outlandish promises that have no way of being realistically carried out. . .it's going to be clearly the people's choice as far as I'm concerned," stated the Chief.

"You know the old saying, 'when the going gets tough'- well, I know I'm tough enough to protect our tribal government against all odds. . and whoever runs for Council, or any other position should be prepared to be tough and spend long hours on their own time to do a job the Creeks can consider well done."

Chief Cox pointed out the necessity for commitment, "Just ask any of the current Council representatives about the time consumed in making sound decisions and the personal effort it takes on their part."

"Because we don't all see the tribal government in the same light, these differences ususally bring out the worst, along with the best in candidates- but that's good, in that it gives the Creeks a chance to form a good honest opinion in making their choice," evaluated the Creek Chief.

(CN Election Notice, Page 3)

Three Tribal Chiefs Recently Reelected

Three Oklahoma tribal chiefs were recently reelected to their positions through elections conducted by the tribal governments.

Hollis Roberts was reelected for his fourth term as Chief of the Choctaw Nation with 64.3 per cent of the votes on July 11. He received a total of 3,484 votes. Chief Roberts will be inaugurated September 7.

The day after the first woman to be elected Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation, Wilma Mankiller said it's now time to get on with business. She said she had been, "jostled, jerked, pushed and pulled. When you win this race, you definitely feel like you've won."

Mankiller received 5,914 votes in the July 18 runoff election. She will be sworn into office on August 14.

The Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe reelected John "Rocky" Barrett as Tribal Chairman. This election was held June 27. Barrett received 500 of the 967 votes. The Election Commission had to recount the vote because of a tribal provision for a recount when totals are within ten per cent. Chairman Barrett was sworn in by the Tribal Judge shortly after the results were announced.

Other tribal elections to take place soon will be the Chickasaw Nation election. This election is conducted by absentee vote. The votes will be counted on August 18. The incumbent Governor, Overton James, did not opt to run for reelection.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation will conduct its general election on October 24. Principal Chief Claude Cox recently announced his plans to run for a fifth term.

Seminole Nation Principal Chief Ed Tanyan relayed information as to their election. Because the Seminoles were the first of the Five Civilized Tribes to ratify a constitution, their first election was conducted before the other four tribes. The next Seminole election will take place in 1989.

All-Night Singing Scheduled August 22

There will be a All-Night Gospel Singing at Johnson Chapel, 5 miles south, 3 miles east and 1 mile south of Allen and Highway 48, on August 22, starting at 7:00 p.m. Special guest will be the Singing Greens of Boone, North Carolina and the Harmonettes & Co. of Ada, plus other groups. MC is Al Brown and there will be concession. Bring your lawn chairs.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $12.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements.Address P.O Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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Rita Williams

Sonny Sampson Family Expresses Appreciation

We want to express our gratitude and appreciation for everyone who had a part in helping us in our hour of need. If you brought food, flowers, or just came to our house to be with us, thank you. Special thanks to Creek Nation for the chairs, for the the dinner at the church, and to Willie Haney and the Vietnam Color Guard. Also to all Indian communities who brought food, Sunshine King, and the CIMA, Este Mvskokulke Party, Tree of Life Church, and last of all, but not least, the touching eulogy to our son and brother in the last issue of the Muscogee Nation News. MVTO!

The family of William (Sonny) Sampson, Jr.

Letter To Editor:

Dear Ms. Chalakee:

I'm sending my belated appreciation and gratefulness on the article that appeared in the April issue of Muscogee Nation News. I was not aware that the editorials in the Tulsa Tribune were so critical. I knew how the Daily Oklahoman editorials were. I wrote to them once after they incorrectly stated facts, but my letter was never printed.

As of right now, our case is on appeal to the State Supreme Court and a temporary restraining order is in effect during the pending of the appeal. The Court has refused to enter a permanent injunction because the prison officials had made attempts to accomodate our religious practices, that is if we can obtain an exemption to the 'Grooming Code'- if it can be verified by a respectable non-family member who isn't in prison. Which some of the Indian prisoners aren't able to do because many of us do not come into contact with traditional practices until after we are imprisoned.

We are alleging that the exemption process is unconstitutional because it fails to adequately protect our practices from arbitrary decisions. While the appeal is pending, I've written to Ann Marshall of the Oklahoma Human Rights Commission about having a Bill presented to the legislature next year that would fully protect and preserve our traditional practices, not only in prison, but in every segment of society, places where the American Indian Freedom Act does not extend. We're in the process of obtaining similar legislation passed in Arizona and New Mexico.

Again, I am grateful for the article you wrote. The racist ignorance of immature people will flourish unless we educate them otherwise. May the Creator look after you and yours.

Ben Carnes, McAlester OK

NOTE: Carnes is a Choctaw inmate in the McAlester Prison who sought to keep his long hair for religious reasons. After filing a lawsuit, prison officials added exemptions to the grooming code. The original modifications made in the policy allowed inmates to apply for exemptions on religious grounds if they could produce evidence that:-Their religion was a recognized religion. -They were a sincere adherent of the religion and can establish membership as documented by a verified leader of the church. -The practice inhibited by the prison regulation is a fundamental tenet of the religion. Warden Gary Maynard, the defendant in Carnes suit, changed the wording of the second requisite to read, "that (the inmate) is a sincere adherent of the religion verfied by a reputable non-family member who is not under the custody of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections." A prison board also has been established to consider exemptions. Carnes attorney said Carnes had not applied for the special exemption in his lawsuit.

Alexander Posey Poetry Contest Winners Announced. . .

"All my people are poets. . . natural born poets, gifted with wonderful imaginative power and the ability to express in sonorous, musical phrases their impressions of life and nature. If they could be translated into English without losing their characteristic beauty and flavor, many of the Indian songs and poems would rank among the greatest productions of all time. Some of them are masterpieces. They have a splendid dignity, gorgeous word-pictures, and reproduce with magic effect many phases of life in the forests- not necessarily the stilted poetry of books, but the free and untrammeled poetry of Nature, the poetry of the fields, the sky, the river, the sun and the stars. . ."
Alexander Posey (From Poems of Alexander L. Posey, First Edition 1910. First Revised Edition 1969.)

This was written by Alexander Posey, the most famous Creek poet, nearly one hundred years ago. There have been many changes for the tribe, since then, but one thing has remained constant; it's the innate gift our people have for poetry.

It's important we use this gift, for it is a promise of our continuance. Poetry can be a link between the past and the present, give insight to the future. I know this to be true, as I have sat up late at night, or early in the morning writing and been allowed in to the music of the universe through the sounds of cricket, rounds of cicada songs, the dreams of stars.

This is the first year of the Alexander Posey Poetry Contest, for Creek students from fourth through twelfth grades. We solicited poetry submissions through the Muscogee Nation News. This year there weren't many poems, but we encourage all students to begin thinking about writing now, for there will be another contest next spring.

The best preparation for writing poems is to read poetry. There are many collections of Native American poetry now available. It wasn't so when I first started writing.

When Alexander Posey began writing there weren't any written collections of Native writers, but he attributes his strength of writing to knowing the sounds, the songs of his people; he knew the language fluently. That is another way to learn how to write poetry. To listen. Listen to the rhythms in the way your family speaks, to the stories, to the songs, to the animals. That's where poetry begins. -Joy Harjo

We awarded prizes within three divisions. In some cases there weren't enough entries to fully award each division. Each winner will be receiving a certificate, and first place winners $20, second place $15, third place $10. Congratulations to each of the winners. They include:

4th-6th

1st: Missy Bruner, "Spring"
Liberty Public Schools

2nd: Stacy Patrick, "In A Tree Far Away"
Stilwell Public School

3rd: Janet Johnson, "My Mom"
Konawa Elementary School
Honorable Mention: Meredith Taylor, Ryal School and Esther Yargee, Justice School.

7th-9th

1st: Tie, Julie Deann Saunders,
"Questions"
Henryetta High School
and
Donna Washington, "Dinosaurs"
Morris Middle School

2nd: Theodore Checote Waller
"They Touched The Trees"
Preston High School

10th-12th

1st: James Paul Neeley, "Grandmother"
Norman High School

2nd: Lisa Gifford, "Untitled"
Glenpool High School

-NOTICE-
Indian Mineral Owners

Minerals Management Service, MMS, from the Denver office will conduct a seminar to acquaint you with the system they are using for production accounting. This seminar is especially important to the Individual Indian Money, I.I.M., accounts. Vern Ingram, Chief External Affairs with MMS will be at the Creek Nation Mound on August 12 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss this procedure. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Old-Time Brush Arbor Revival , August 9

An old time brush arbor revival will be held August 9 at 7:30 p.m. with lots of good singing and preaching south of the Jiffy Mart in Henryetta (4½ miles and turn left at the Ryal School exit). Also, on August 15, there will be a Gospel Singing at the same brush arbor at 7:30 p.m. with MC Robert Jones. Everyone is welcome. Bring your lawn chair. Expecting: Muskogee Sounds, Polecat Family, Grayson Family, Gospel Harmonettes, the Geionety Family and more.

Letter To Chief:

Dear Chief Cox:

Hope you are fine, I had always looked forward to receiving my Muscogee Nation News which I enjoy very much. This month I did not receive one, would you please see that I get one. I always vote, they send me an absentee vote and I always vote. I hope you and your family are fine. I will be 83 next month, but I am doing real fine, hope to see you again someday - if you are ever this way, stop and see us.

Sincerely, Fred Skeeter

Softball and Volleyball Labor Day Tournaments

The Choctaw Nation will host a fast pitch Mens and Womens softball tournament at the Labor Day Festival in Tushkahoma with entry fee $90. First paid 24 mens and first paid 12 womens teams accepted. Contact Tony Messenger at 1-800-522-6170 or 405-924-8280. Deadline, August 21. A volleyball tournament will also be held. The first paid eight teams will be accepted. Entry fee is $35 with single eliminaton. Must contact Debbie Jefferson at the above numbers. First place team and individual trophies will be awarded and second place team trophy.

MEMBERS OF THE EUFAULA INDIAN COMMUNITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND CHIEF COX *recently toured the nearly completed Eufaula Community Center. Shown are left to right: Frank Kamp, John Marshall, Chief Cox, Kenneth Tiger, and Van McIntosh.*

Eufaula Indian Community Center Nearing Completion. . .

By Helen Chalakee

A 50X100 sq. ft. community center is nearing completion for the Eufaula Indian Community. The multi-purpose building is designed to acommodate an elderly nutrition center by day and a 250-seat bingo hall by night with office space and a fully equipped kitchen.

The center is located at the old Eufaula Boarding School site where the teacher's quarters once stood. The Creek tribe has owned this plot of land since the beginning of Creek Nation in Indian Territory. Remnants of the past are encountered upon entry through a native stone and grilled iron gate that has guarded the compound for almost a century.

The Eufaula Indian Community is a closely knit group of which most have resided in the area all their lives. Their objectives for the new center are to bring in employment, provide services, establish economic development, and maintain a regular meeting place for the community.

Chief Cox said the $145,000 for constructing the new building was appropriated by the National Council out of the second phase of the tribe's Three-Year-Plan, which is made up entirely of tribal funds that are interest accrued from judgment funds awarded to the Creek Nation from claims the tribe made to the federal government.

When preparing the Three-Year-Plan budget, the Chief talked about the importance of the tribe acquiring and developing and making improvements on property already owned. "I always put as much as I can into the capitol acquisitions line item for projects such as the Eufaula Community Center," the Chief said. "The communities are what the tribal government is all about."

He pointed out the nearby tribal health center and the head start also located within the compound. . ."the new facility can be used by the commmunity to provide additional services so that the local folks don't have to drive the 50 miles to Okmulgee- space in the facility can be used to sit up whatever services they feel they need."

Ken Tiger, chairman of the Eufaula Community, said the community has plans for serving around 150 in the elderly nutrition program. He related that although the non-Indian community operates a similiar program, most of the Indian elderly were not being serviced. "We want to make sure the homebound get the service they need," Tiger said.

The Eufaula community is hoping the bingo and the Community Smoke Shop that is already in operation will fund the nutrition program. The Council recently approved start-up funding for the bingo operation from the Tulsa Bingo profits. The tribal investment into the community project will be returned to the tribe through taxes collected on cigarette sales and a 50/50 split with the community on the bingo revenue.

Serving on the Eufaula Community Board of Directors are Ken Tiger, Frank Kamp, Van McIntosh and John Marshall. They all have high hopes for the community. Kamp mentioned a project he was interested- Creek language classes. Other programs discussed were adult education, G.E.D. classes, commodity distribution site, and special fund raisers. The Eufaula Indian Community meets the first Thursday of the month.

Diet and Cancer. . .

Thirty-five percent of all cancers are related to the way we eat. Find out how to choose a diet that may reduce you and your family's risk for getting cancer. Learn to eat as if your life depended on it! Call the Oklahoma Cancer Information toll-free at 1-800-4-CANCER for information on the role of diet and nutrition in cancer prevention.

Alcohol and Drug Program Available at Creek Nation Community Hospital

According to testimony given last year before Congress's Interior Committee, Indians die from alcoholism at four times the rate of other Americans. Additionally, 80 percent of suicides committed by Indian youths, a rate twice as high as for other youths, are tied to alcohol.

What is the solution to overcome alcoholism? Al Rolland, coordinator of the Creek Nation Alcohol Program at Creek Nation Community Hospital in Okemah, says the alcoholic must completely and totally quit drinking and never drink again.

"Alcoholism is a medical problem, and should be treated as such," he explains. "Restoring the health of the alcoholic is the first step, followed by the revitalization and well-being of the total person, which is more difficult and obviously takes longer."

Two and one half years ago, the Creek Nation Alcohol Program was begun as a medical detoxification program to treat alcohol and drug dependency for Indians. Funded through the Indian Health Service, the program is the only Indian Health Service inpatient detoxification service in the state.

Creek citizens may be admitted at no charge to the detoxification program. Non Indians also have access to the program, but must pay for the services. Individuals may admit themselves to the program, or concerned friends and families may admit the patient. The process takes a minimum of 72 hours, because every individual has different needs.

"The program's intent is to provide a way for the individual to come off the chemical toward a greater state of physical stability while in a hospital setting," Rolland points out.

Nutrition packed foods become the patient's diet. Medications are used to treat withdrawal symptoms. All efforts are geared toward eliminating alcohol from the patient's life.

Outpatient counseling following detoxification and treatment is essential, Rolland emphasizes. Mental health is a major entity under the alcohol program umbrella, and chronic depression, grief reactions, and major depressive episodes must be addressed, whether or not the individual is chemically influenced.

"The Creek Nations Alcohol Program medical control for withdrawal from chemical dependency," Roland says. "We then refer the patient for long term treatment which is usually a treatment program lasting 30 days or more, through IHS reimbursed facilities such as Kullihoma, operated by the Chickasaw Nation, or the Choctaw Recovery Center operated by the Choctaw Nation."

The aftercare programs may last one year primarily because they help individuals with such long-term emotional hooks as discharging anger, feelings of inadequacy, low self esteem, lack of self confidence, and many others.

The Creek Nation Alcohol program is successful for the purpose it serves, Rolland explains. The long term commitment of the individual to be rid of chemical abuse is not only up to the person, but to the community and family systems as well.

"We are focusing on the family; intervention services provide counseling and training for family members wishing to confront loved ones about the harmful effects of chemical abuse, and even the outpatient program features family counseling," Rolland explains.

tired of being chemically dependent," he says. "They're sometimes people who've drank since they were 10 or 11 years old, but in their mind they've come to the conclusion that they'll no longer tolerate that lifestyle.These are the ones who are finally committed to being independent of chemicals."

Rolland says the Creek Nation Alcohol Program is a benefit to the Indian population.

"Its a valued, necessary service," he continues. "When the individual decides that it's time to change, we help them see the light at the end of the tunnel. It takes a complete lifestyle change, but it promotes greater stability, intellect, physical ability, and economic self sufficiency."

CN Election Set For October 24

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation general election for Principal Chief, Second Chief and Council Representatives will be conducted October 24 as prescribed by the Creek Constitution for the fourth Saturday in October.

Filing dates are set for September 14, 15 and 16. Filing fees are $100 for Council Representative, $250 for Second Chief and $400 for Principal Chief.

In order to vote in this election, Creek citizens must be registered with the Creek Nation Election Board. Registered voters residing outside the Creek Nation will vote by absentee ballot and should notify the CN Election Board if an address correction is needed.

Registered voters residing within the Creek Nation who wish to vote an absentee ballot should contact the CN Election Board with a written request for an absentee ballot to be sent to them.

The Creek Nation Citizenship Board is required to notify the CN Election Board as to the number of enrolled citizens so the Election Board can determine the number of representatives required for each district in the election.

The Muscogee Nation News will announce the schedule for campaign information in the next issue.

Remember, if you are enrolled but not registered with the Election Board, you will not be eligible to vote in this election. So be sure and register to vote in this very important tribal election. For more information on enrolling contact the CN Citizenship Board. For more information on the election and registering to vote call the CN Election Board. Both offices can be reached at 918/756-8700 or P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

Overton James Retires After Serving 24 Years As Chickasaw Governor

By Helen Chalakee

Doctors, lawyers and Indian Chiefs were on the scene July 18 at the Lincoln Plaza in OKC to honor the Governor of the "Unconquered and Unconquerable" Chickasaw Nation- Governor Overton James.

For 24 years the Governor has led the Chicksaw Nation out of substandard housing, underemployment and inadequate health care to a time of promise and hope for a better way of life for the Chicksaw people.

He leaves a legacy of accomplishments and many of these were brought out as his friends made their way to the podium to present him with words of praise and tokens of appreciation. Governor James sat serenly by and took each word to heart for in three months he will be turning over the Chickasaw Nation to a new governor.

Lieutenant Governor Bill Anoatubby, who MC'd the event and is himself a candidate for the soon to be vacated position, described the Chickasaw Nation in the beginning as being nothing more than existing on paper with $50,000 in assets- no services, no goals, no objectives.

Governor James' retirement will bring to end a political rejuvenation and reconstruction era that will leave the Chicksaw Nation with millions in tribal assets and a good strong foundation of government. . . what a way to go- but then "The Gov" always did cut a flamboyant trail.

President Kennedy appointed Governor James in 1963 to serve as the Chickasaw leader. In 1971, when tribal governments were allowed to elect their tribal officials, Governor James was elected to continue his work. He was reelected again in 1975, 1979 and 1983.

Virgil Harrington, who was the Muskogee Area BIA Director at the time of the Governor's presidental appointment commented that he was the one to swear the Governor into office; now, 24 years later he was wondering how he was going to 'swear him out'. This drew a round of applause from the audience because they knew retirement would not keep the Governor's heart out of the Indian business.

Governor James has been involved on more Indian health and housing boards than one can recall- he has served on the Five Civilized Tribes Inter-tribal Council since its Inter-tribal Council since its beginning, most of that time as chairman. He holds the record of never missing a meeting. His consistency has been the life-force of that Council. In his respect for the other four tribes, he would never pass a resolution unless all five tribes voted unimously- many times leaving his personal feelings on matters second to the wishes of the other council members. As a result of his loyalty to the Council, it is looked upon somberly by the federal government when ever it takes action either for or against an issue. He knows the strength of Indian unity.

Governor James has made Indian business, his business; but, he always went a step further than just keeping abreast of issues. He did something about the issues as is now evident in Indian health care, Indian housing, Indian education, road-building- the list goes on and on. Because of his persistence in helping get legislation passed in Oklahoma for Indian housing, over 3,000 Indian homes have been constructed in Chickasaw Nation.

Governor James was a man of the time- these things didn't just happen as if by magic. True- they were there for the taking, but it took leaders such as the Governor to impart their business sense and skills along with perserverance to make them pan out.

Among his business projections for the tribe was purchasing a motel in Sulpher and turning it into an economic success for the tribe. The Chickasaw Motor Inn employees 50 people and nets a huge annual income for the tribal coffer.

One friend told how the Governor had negotiated the name change for Platt National Park to the Chickasaw National Recreation Area because all the land at one time belonged to the Chickasaw Nation.

The Mayor of Ada, Joe Gifford, said the Governor was directly responsible for millions of dollars being brought into the area and that he had into the area and that he had proclaimed July 18 as Governor James Day in Ada.

-Photo by Richard Ray

GOVERNOR OVERTON JAMES IS BESIDE HIMSELF-*The "Gov" stands alongside a lifesize portrait taken in his earlier years. Which one is the real Governor James?*

State Representative Lonnie Abbot said the Governor was always promoting the Chickasaw Nation- through this promoting he brought recreation to Talahoma and managed to get a road built leading to the facility. He lauded the Governor's work for all the worthwhile projects he had accomplished.

Another of the Governor's dreams come true during his tenure was the Carl Albert Indian Hospital in Ada. This hospital has brought medical relief to the Indian people in that area plus employes a large staff.

As usual, the Governor never let the opportunity slip away to introduce his "Sugar Bear", his "first wife", Evelyn and also his secretary for the past 20 years, Lynn, whom he says is a member of the "Clairol" tribe.

Other presentations were made by the Chickasaw Nation CHR's and by the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging in behalf of the Governor's work for the elderly.

Lieutenant Governor Anoatubby and Kennedy Brown, who is running for the Lieutenant Governor's position, presented Governor James with a bronze bust in the Governor's likeness which was the work of noted sculptor Leonard McMurry.

The Chickasaw people were attributed for their contributions for the bust along with those who attended the event for providing the recognition for Governor James.

Wording Change Creates Controversary for Indians in Older Americans Act

NOTE: Rep. Mario Biaggi(D-NY) introduced amendments to the Older Americans Act of 1965 that would create an Office of Tribal Programs in the US Administration on Aging (Indian Desk). Under the amendments would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to fund grants with national Indian aging organizations to provide employment services, to establish a permanent task force on older Indians within the federal government and to fund a study on the availability and quality of services under the 1965 Act, among other actions advocating on behalf of the older American Indian. However, a controversary has arose over the new language which was added to the amendments that would define "Native American" not only as American Indian but would include Hawaiians, Puerto Ricans, residents of Guam, Virgin Islands and Samoa as Native Americans. Steve Wilson, Manager of the CN Community Research and Development Department takes issue with the change in wording by Senator Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) and explains the ramifications of this action to older American Indians. Wilson is also the Director of the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging.

Although the US House of Representatives passed the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, by a vote in of the House of 379-8, and with the entire Indian Amendments included in the bill, in the Senate mark-up of the Bill, Senator Matsunaga (D-Hawaii) changed the wording in the bill from "American Indian" to "Native American" and added a Part B under Title VI.

This move by Senator Matsunaga was so that he could include the Native Hawaiian in Indian funding and programs. This would also allow Guam, Virgin Islands, Samoa and Puerto Rico to be included in future funding. This action has caused an outcry among the American Indian community.

The National Indian Council on Aging, National Title VI Association and the State Indian Councils on Aging along with many tribes have taken issue with this actioin and have campaigned vigorously against the inclusion of these groups in Indian legislation.

The anticipation is, the Matsunga bill will go through full committee without any opposition. However, legislation is ready to be introduced and supported from Senators from Oklahoma (Nickels and Boren), New Mexico and Arizona to oppose this bill and change it back to say "American Indian" once it is introduced on the floor of the Senate. Tribes throughout the US were asked to contact their legislators to fight for the treaty status that Indian tribes enjoy at this time.

If the battle is lost on the Senate floor, there will be one last opportunity to battle the issue and that will be in joint committee of the House and Senate since the House bill has the amendments written in the manner that was developed by the Indian Aging advocates.

We understand the Native Hawaiians experience the same problems in services being provided to them, as the American Indian, but our concern is that a more committed precedent will be established for future legislation and funding that would take from the American Indian such as Health Services, housing and other federally funded tribal programs.

Steve Wilson, Manager
CN Community Research & Development

Ethel Torres Awarded Certificate of Honor

Ethel Torres, Weleetka, recently received a Certificate of Honor for the public relations work she has done for the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women for the last three years and for the other services she has done to benefit Indians.

Sgt. Lonetree's Father Requests Support From Native Americans-

EDITOR'S NOTE: Marine Sergeant Clayton Lonetree, a 25 year old Navajo/Winnebago from St. Paul, Minn. is currently undergoing court-martial for 13 charges against him including espionage, conspiracy to commit espionage, failure to obey regulations, and wrongful disclosure of the identity of U.S. intelligence agents. If convicted, he could be sentenced to life imprisonment. The following letter was sent to the Muscogee Nation News from Lonetree's father, Spencer Lonetree:

DEAR EDITOR:

Enclosed, please find copies of relevant papers pertaining to my son, Marine Sergeant, Clayton J. Lonetree. I write this letter to convey my utmost concerns regarding this fabricated case and to beseech your kind assistance in this crucial matter.

I have raised two fine gentlemen marines who are proud and patriotic Americans. The incident involving my son is totally out of character and statements attributed to him are completely false. I am convinced Sgt. Lonetree's admission to an 'error in judgement' (December, 1986) was singled out and perceived by certain individuals within this administration's hierarchy as a prime opportunity to divert attention from their Iran-Contra fiasco. Indeed, as far as they were concerned the timing couldn't have been more appropriate.

Sergeant Lonetree's reputation has been irreparably and unnecessarily sullied by unscrupulous people who need to be identified. I am commited to this cause. Indeed, it is a sad day in America when citizens are 'used' as sacrificial lambs by the powers of the government to cover up their mistakes.

I would appreciate having my statement published in your paper. I want to convey the 'other' side of this sordid case to the American Indian people and other Americans who may want to help insure that justice prevails.

Sincerely yours, Spencer Lonetree
752 Margaret Street, St. Paul, MN 55106

A FATHER'S CALL FOR JUSTICE

The burden I have shouldered for the past six months is a weighted cross which bears my son. I am the father of Marine Sergeant Clayton John Lonetree, the 25 year old Winnebago/Navajo Indian accused of bogus and trumped-up espionage charges by the government.

From the first day I heard of the incident (January 10), I immediately suspected a bogus case. I knew my son was not a traitor to his country and I have stedfastly stood by, and believed in, his innocence of such charges. This is totally out of his character. I raised two marines as a single parent and they were both ingrained with high standards of conduct and integrity. They are products of an environment which stressed personal pride, definiteness of purpose, and the perseverance to excel. This was without a doubt, instrumental in their decisions to become members of; "The few, the proud, the U.S. Marines". I am convinced they would not do anything deliberately to bring disgrace and dishonor to themselves as Americans and as Marines.

There is an old saying that goes, "There are always two sides to a story". The American people have been hearing and reading one side of this story long enough. What the public has been given are fabricated tales which have been effectively orchestrated to achieve the purpose of diverting attention from the Iran-Contra Arms Scandal. The State Department and Pentagon 'sources' have duped the media and the public with sensationalism. Indeed, the "virus" of spy fever raged everywhere in the country, but it breeds nowhere in more virulent form than in Washington, particularly with this administration's hierarchy.

Their plan was simple. The public when 'aroused and excited by passion, prejudice, or patriotism, is little better than a school of savage piranha. This whole matter regarding my son has assumed the spirit of vengeance, and vengeance is seldom justice. Sgt. Lonetree, I'm sorry to say, is the unfortunate victim of perhaps this country's most corrupt and prejudiced administration in American history. The record speaks for itself.

An example of the corrupt nature of this case was evident at the first hearing date (March 26), wherein a government witness admitted they told Sgt. Lonetree to "lie" and "to say anything". My son was coersed, badgered, and encouraged to lie on two separate occasions. He was also threatened, but to what extent I do not know. He wouldn't divulge that information to me. He was interrogated for nine hours the first time (Dec. 26), and seven hours the second (Dec. 29). He refused to lie but after hours of continuous badgering, he became agitated and acquiesced. He told his interrogators; "Okay, you want some lies... I'll give you some lies!" That was exactly what they wanted. It was wrong for my son to do that but I do not know how I would have reacted under similar circumstances.

Essentially then, that is how the government's case was developed. It is a bogus case based on deceit, dishonesty and trickery, coercion and lies.

My sons and I believe in God, the American flag, the constitution, human rights and the Marine Corps. We do not hold the Marine Corps responsible for this mess, but rather, we retain the highest respect for this elite branch of service and their proud traditions. The Marine Corps is not responsible for screening, hiring and placing the KGB Agents and Swallows in the embassies. The fault lies elsewhere. The State Department and Pentagon and their 'unidentified sources' who delibertly kept leaking out bits and pieces of 'their story' over four months time, are really the people to be faulted...the statement that was attributed to my son, that he, "Hates whites for what they did to American Indians one hundred years ago", is completely false and asinine. To dare insinuate such thinking on the part of my son is inane and insane, and it indicates simple mindedness by the NIS Investigators.

In fact, the philosophical upbringing of my sons discouraged the usage of their minority status and American Indian heritage as a 'crutch' in any way, shape, or form. They were taught to compete within the American system based on their own merits and capabilities as individuals. They were also raised to have open minds and to overlook the ignorance of prejudiced and racist people. Never, were they ever taught to hate!

Sergeant Lonetree's court martial is scheduled to begin July 22. He is being defended by a team much smaller in size (two civilian attorneys, William Kunstler and Michael Stuhff; two military counselors, Major David Henderson and Captain Andrew Strotman; and two investigators,) than the Joint Task Force organized by the Department of Defense and the Justice Department. Approximately forty lawyers and seventy investigators have been detailed to the prosecution.

In an unprecedented move, a Marine Defense fund has been established and contribution to it may be sent to Major David Henderson, Senior Defense Counsel, MCDEC, Quantico, VA 22134-5001. Or you may contribute to: The Lonetree Defense Fund, 670 Fort Road, St. Paul, MN 55102, to the attention of S.G. Lonetree. I beseech your prayers and financial support. Thank you.

The Creek Nation Chapter VEV Color Guard in the Creek Festival Parade, downtown Okmulgee. They also appeared in Okmulgee Pow Wow Parade and are being requested to participate in various events statewide. -Photo by Elliot Barnett

Creek VEV Color Guard to Lead Tulsa Veteran's Parade

By Helen Chalakee

Sometime, you just cannot judge what will create public interest and sentiment until it happens before your very eyes. Such is the case with the Creek Nation Vietnam Era Veterans Inter-tribal Association.

Since the group organized a few months ago, their Color Guard has been in demand statewide to participate in parades, pow wows, honor funerals and various Indian events.

The Color Guard, with their spit shined boots, bright yellow laces, maroon berets, cammies with bright yellow neck scarfs and traditional Indian "shades" are fast becoming the rage of the Indian nations.

Everybody needs a hero and here's ours! Their commitment to the Creek Veteran's Center project is unreal, often meeting several times a week late into the night planning the restoration of the old Oakdale School building, getting their smoke shop in full operation and setting the agenda for appearances.

What is so great, is their attitude about the whole affair- their "gripe" in not with the Vietnam War, in fact, they don't have a gripe. All that they project is a proud image of the Indian veteran, proving they can get it together. Watch for them leading the Tulsa Veteran's Day Parade on November 11. Following is their agenda for the next several monthes:

Aug. 1: Kingfisher Parade, ***Aug. 15:*** McCloud Pow Wow, ***Aug. (week of 17th):*** Anadarko Exposition, ***August 22:***Tulsa Pow Wow, ***Aug 29:*** Ponca Pow Wow: ***Sept. 5:*** Cherokee Holiday Parade, ***Sept. 12:*** Seminole Nation Days: ***Sept 19:*** Okmulgee Title IV/JOM Pow Wow, ***Nov. 11:*** Tulsa Veteran's Day Parade. ***Events they have participated in the past few months are:*** Creek Memorial Day Service, Red Earth, Holdenville Parade, Creek Festival Parade, Okmulgee Pow Wow Parade, Colony Reunion Pow Wow, Tulsa Pow Wow, and honor funerals for Sonny Sampson and Vernon Haney.

Nuyaka "ghetto kids" take to ridin', ropin' & ribbin'

CANEY ROBERTS, SURROUNDED BY HIS GRANDCHILDREN IS THE PROUD PATRIARCH OF THE ROBERTS CLAN, shown left to right are, Tony Roberts, Matthew Roberts, Jerome Roberts, Jason Leitka, Joe Leitka, Steve Pidgeon, Russell Roberts, Kendall Roberts, Beverly Roberts, and Caney Roberts.

By Rita Williams

Riding horses and rodeo is becoming a way of life and past time for some young Nuyaka residents.

Sandra 22, Steve 21, Beverly 17, Tony 17, Christopher 16, Matthew 15, Kendall 15, Joe 14, Russell 14, and Jerome 13, not only have the same interest where riding is concerned. They are close cousins and friends to one another.

Matthew started riding first and then the rest of the boys. They would borrow horses from Harry Douglas during the summer and in return they would feed and take care of the horses.

After encouragement from Adam Thomas to join the Nuyaka Riding Club, they saw a need to purchase more horses.

With the interest growing from the cousins, their Aunt Judy Roberts felt they needed to organize on their own.

Judy stated, "I talked to a lot of people around Creek Nation that wanted to join an All-Indian Riding club." "So, I approached the executive director, Gary Breshears with the idea and they gave us their full support."

Judy helped the club to organize as they sat in front of Stella Roberts home under a tree and elected officers.

Adam Thomas taught them to set pivots. The first place they sat pivots was at the Creek Nation Rodeo. Since that time they have set pivots for the Region Eight Finals held in Tahlequah, Sac and Fox Rodeo, Allen Ranch and maybe the Seminole Rodeo. They also rode in the Council Oak Tree dedication, parades and have won numerous trophies and cash prizes.

The Creek Nation Indian Riding club is the first organized All-Indian Riding club to represent an individual tribe.

When asked about the nickname, "Nuyaka Ghettos" which the boys are called, Tony Roberts, spokesperson for the group stated, "Grandma named us, because we run in packs." "We didn't have to look for new friends because we had everyone." Not only are they nicknamed the Ghettos but as the real ghettos run true to form, they also have nicknames for each other such as, catfish, scooter, jube, nasto, fat, jamison, Katcv, and B-Ray.

Their horses names are, skillet, tuft red, butch, Yahv, missy, bandit, wildfire, coco and dusty.

These boys ride horses everyday and are very good at it. Jerome commented, "Our first trick rider was, Joe," "We told him him to open the gate one time--and he jumped over it." They all laughed. You get the impression that not only are they learning to ride but are trying other horse antics.

Among the boys is their cousin, Beverly, who is the Creek Nation Riding club queen. She is a barrel-racer and holds her own among the boys as well. "Being a girl never was a disadvantage." "I always get along with them, I can ride just as well as they can." Beverly also roped for a while until her uncle Roy told her to go home and practice. "I never went back-but,I still have the rope." she laughed.

The boys hold a deep respect for their grandparents Caney and Stella Roberts.

"I am proud of these boys," said Stella. "My own children and grandchildren never talked back to us, they do what we expect them to do." "On Saturday nights if we are coming in from a rodeo, they are outside unloading the horses." "If they do go somewhere on Saturday nights, I make sure they go to church with me on Sunday." "I don't have any problems though, they always go with me." "Caney is always happy to be with his grandchildren." "He used to ride himself." "He will do things for them now, as long as they ride, he will help them." "If they are riding in the evening he will go outside and watch them." "If they go off somewhere to participate in rodeos, he will always go."

Tony stated, "We are in the process of building our own arena. Grandpa gave us the land, material and stock." "He told us what to do along with Sonny (Carney) Roberts." "We put all the labor in." "The name of the arena will be Circle G for Ghettos."

The cousins have hopes and dreams and some were shared. "Matthew said, "One goal is to be invited to the Indian National Finals to set pivots and to see more Indians join."

Other than the riding club they also participate in basketball, football, track, weightlifting and baseball.

The two girls that also belong to the Ghetto group have grown up, but are the leaders of the pack. The two, Gwen and Sandra are the oldest of the cousins. Gwen has attended Seminole Jr. College and majors in Sociology. Sandra is 22, and is majoring in elementary education. Steve is majoring in business management. Beverly wants to study in, equine technology. Tony and Matthew want to be veterinarians. Jason wants to be an artist. Kendall, Russell and Joe haven't made their mind up yet. Jerome...wants to be tall.

The Creek Nation Riding club wish to thank these people for their support. Chief Claude Cox, Gary Breshears, Buddy York, and the National Council.

Report on Smith Family Reunion...

We had a great time at the Smith Family Reunion on May 30th at the Middle Creek Church. Approximately 78 members were present. We're adding approximately 60-70 people from the Jeffery Smith Family to our Smith Family tree. Oldest member present was Angel Lowe from Holdenville. Youngest member was 11 month old Joshua Smith, son of Mike and Sharon Smith of Dustin. Betty (McGirt) Dunning traveled the fartherest. (117 miles)

Family Chairman is Jimmy Roberts of Dustin. Reunion Committee for 1988 are: Minnie Long, Holdenville, John Lowe, Okla City, Diana Grayson, Stilwell and Jimmy Roberts of Dustin.

Activity committee are: Senora Hayes, Coweta, Bud Dunning, Picher and Bill R. Smith of Lamar.

The next reunion date is set for the last Saturday before Memorial Day at the same place. We'll be having all Indian food. If you wish to be put on the mailing list send your address to: Smith Reunion, P.O Box 4 Stilwell, Ok 74960

Letter to MNN

I have been an avid supporter and reader of your paper for years and thought you'd be interested in writing a piece about some awards my son, C'ate Star Douglas, received at an awards assembly held the last day of this school year.

C'ate Star Douglas

C'ate was born in Washington, D.C., May 1, 1977, and is the son of Rickey and Karen Douglas, of Oklahoma City, grandson of Freeland and Susie Douglas of San Antonio, Texas, and the nephew of Suzan Shown Harjo of Washington, D.C.

C'ate has just finished the fourth grade at Wilson Elementary School *in* Oklahoma City. He was presented the "Presidential Academic Fitness Award" in recognition of outstanding academic achievement and meeting the standards of the presidential Academic Fitness Awards Program. This was presented in the form of a certificate signed by Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, and by William J. Bennet, U.S. Secretary of Education. The blue and white embossed certificate was accompanied with a blue and gold lapel pin and a letter of congratulations, on White House stationary, from Ronald Reagan.

A gold medal with red, white and blue ribbon along with a certificate was also presented to C'ate in recognition of his maintaining a high grade level that kept him on the Principal's Honor Roll all four quarters of the school year.

Another certificate was awarded to C'ate for displaying outstanding qualities of citizenship.

To top it all off, C'ate was presented with a very large trophy, blue and silver with white marble, for being Wilson's Student of the Year.

C'ate is only going to be in the fifth grade and he has already accumulated more awards than I have in my entire lifetime. My wife and I have given C'ate encouragement and optimism toward his daily classroom assignments and tests-we've never pushed him. We make only one demand and that's "Do your homework first". I'm sure that in the future, Indian people will have alot to look forward to and will have alot to be proud of in C'ate Star Douglas

Thank You Very Much,
Rickey Dean Douglas

One in a Series of Interviews with Stella Roberts on family life among the Creeks

STELLA ROBERTS, NUYAKA COMMUNITY, SITS IN HER BACKYARD SHELLING PURPLE HULL BEANS *in preparation for canning and freezing, a familiar summertime activity.*

Stella Roberts Shares Wealth of Information on Cooking: The Traditional Creek Way

By Rita Williams

One of the most interesting qualities that our Creek elders possess is the well-spring of history that lies stored in their mind of often times precious memories.

Much history has gone to the grave with our Creek people that will never be told, nor will those stories that our early grandmothers and grandfathers told their children be shared with this generation.

Time is of the essence to capture in the written word any history our elders may share that has been retained somewhere in the deep recesses of their soul.

One Creek elder stated this, "The younger generation don't have time for us older ones to sit and talk or to learn of our way, and we have so much to tell." "Our minds are becoming old with age and remembering is hard."

Stella Roberts, Creek, from the Nuyaka Community was eager to recall and share her earlier years, being raised in an Indian setting all her life.

While sitting at the dining room table and shelling purple hull beans, Stella spoke about the way they would prepare Indian food and the work involved.

"I learned to cook when I was very small." "I remember earlier Creek women drying their food before they learned to can. . . .we dried our meat, corn, pumpkin and all of our fruit."

"My family always had a big garden, there were three of us children, Walter, Elmer and myself born to my mother, Pollie Bear." "We always had something to do. I don't remember buying seeds from the store like we do now, we always saved our seeds from year to year." My family raised their own hogs and after they were butchered, we rendered our lard.

"Back in those days, we never had ice to keep our food fresh." "We cooked our meat and stored them in gallon cans. The grease would preserve the meat and they were stored in a cellar."

"I remember making our own cane syrup, and this was pure can syrup too," she commented. "The mules were hooked up to a churn and they would pull this in a circle while the cane was being thrown in to mash. The juices would be caught in a barrel or tub. This was also stored in 5 gallon can." "We used this syrup on our pancakes or mother would bake cakes using the syrup." "After the syrup would set so long it would turn to sugar, this was also utilized."

"People had their own livestock, such as milk cows, hogs and chicken. We sold our eggs for 12 cents a dozen. And planted corn for the livestock, and sofkey corn for home use. . .what we buy in the stores now is not real sofky corn," she said. "Real sofky corn is more white and shiney. No one around where I live raises the real sofky corn. Phillip Deere used to raise the real corn, and it was handed down."

"There used to be a corn mill at Castle and people would take corn to grind for corn meal." "Later in years people preserved the corn by cutting off the corn and boiling it in a pan full of water on the stove and then they would pack it in gallon jars. We never had pressures cookers, but I guess they just knew how long to cook the corn."

"Mother would have us picking wild strawberries and plums and we made jelly out of them." "We prepared the jelly like we do now but, we never used pectin."

"I remember buying KC baking powder and Rex jelly." "The jelly came in little stripped bucket and it was a fruit jelly." "I don't remember drinking anything like kool-aide, I guess we just drank sofkey, water, or abuske, although, we did buy pop, it sold for a nickle for two bottles." "When we did buy pop it was strawberry-Indians always drink strawberry," she laughed.

Stella comments on hominy, sofke, (Vcecvlvtwe-flint corn) hominy, blue bread,(Cv tv huka) grape dumplings,(Pvrko afke) dried corn, (Ecko) and abuske and some of the preparations.

"The hominy corn you see in the stores around Halloween is about as close as you will get to the real thing." "And it has purple, blue and yellow corn in it."

"To make blue bread, what we call in Creek Cvtvhuka, you use the sofkey corn and to color the dumplings, they used to dry the purple pea hulls and burn them. Then sift them real fine a little at a time into the corn meal." "I used to see my grandmother do this." "Her name was Winey Butcher." "They also made sour corn bread out of this meal."

"Grape dumplings were made with Possum grapes.

"Ecko was prepared by boiling the corn on the cob and then cutting them off. They were placed on an old sheet and put on top of a building which had to be turned every so often for the sun to dry and we would bring them in at night if they weren't ready yet and again the next day until they were good and dried."

"Abuske was made out of field corn." "We made abuske all the time, I guess thats why my legs are so dark, because I had to stand by the fire and stir the corn all the time," laughed Stella.

"First, we would gather the corn before it got too hard. Then flip the kernals off by using the thumb or the point of a knife. The reason for this they would tell us not to cut the kernals because the ashes would get into the cut of the kernal. The fire would be prepared and a black pot put on. "Indians always saved ashes from their stoves for sofke or abuske." "Put the ashes inside the pot and let them get good and hot then add the corn and start stirring." "You never quit stirring." "The paddle we stirred with was called an 'Ahtvpv'. "The paddle was long and made out of a mulberry tree." "We took the corn out when they were brown with a dipper and put the corn into a sifter called 'Esyokv' and sifted the ashes out." "Mother would have us use a clean tea towel and clean each corn of any ashes left on them." "Then we put the corn in Keco and beat them with a 'Kehcvpek'." "The top part of this was a heavy shaped mallot either round or square with a long handle."

"As you get older you will find out that the things your mother did you will do also." My brothers say that I cook just like our mother used to." "I don't remember how old my mother or grandmother were because they really didn't know." I do remember grandmother telling my mother about birthdays." "They used to remember them by seasons, such as my mother being born when the mulberries got ripe and that is in the month of May."

"I talk of the good ole days and what times we came through to my children and grandchildren, but they can hardly believe it." "My older son Carney said, "sounds like you were poor." "But we didn't have to worry about paying the electric and water bills. Nobody held an 8-5 job, but people survived and took care of themselves by farming and working in the fields."

Stella and Caney Roberts have raised eight children of their own. Along with their own children they also took other children to raise.

"We always had ours plus others, now I have my grandchildren and they keep us busy. I guess if we didn't have them we would just do nothing. Caney isn't well and if it weren't for those boys he would have given up along time ago. "I told my grandchildren the other day as they sat around the dining table, with so much going on now days, I hope you children never use dope if you do, I hope I am dead and gone."

Stella's children are Carney, Patsy, Patty Sue, Mary, Felix, Roy, Judy and Louise.

CN Softball Tournament Results-

The 13th Annual Creek Nation Festival Softball Tournament ended the way it started, with a lot of rain. After raining out some of the first round games on Friday evening of June 19, the Tournament was rescheduled for July 10,11, and 12.

A total of 56 teams, 24 women and 32 men continued the tourney after the three week delay. For the fourth time the Young Eagles of Stroud won the Women's Tournament. The Runner-Up team was Torbett Printing of Okmulgee, while the Third place trophy went to McFar of Okmulgee. The fourth place team was the D-team of Davenport and the fifth place was Bank Lady Truckers of Holdenville.

The men's finals was rained out, however, because of the Native American team of Jay, being undefeated, the officials of the tournament awarded the championship to them. The Little Ax Travelers was the Runner-Up team while the Tulsa Travelers finished as the third place team. Kansas Indians were the fourth place team while Creek Nation finished in fifth place.

This year the Andy Berryhill Memorial Award was presented to Andy Narcomey in recognition of his contribution to Indian softball. Mr. Narcomey was one of the individuals that began the Oklahoma City All-Indian Tournament. The Most Valuable Player awards were presented to Debbie Burgess of the Young Eagles team in the women's tournament and Jim Rolland of the Native American team in the Men's tournament.

—OBITUARIES—

HEPSEY SCOTT LEWIS

Mrs. Hepsey Scott Lewis, 84, of Eufaula died May 15 at Community Hospital Lakeview. Wake services were held at West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church. Services were conducted by the Reverends Dan Phillips Jr. and Archie Thomas. Burial was in the Greenwood Cemetery in Eufaula.

Pallbearers were Amos Harjo, Taylor Fields, Tom Pickering, Robert Grayson, Jr., James Charles, Rudy Johnson, Frank Kamp, and Turner Bear, Jr.

Mrs. Lewis was born in McIntosh County November 6, 1902. She worked several years at Lakeside Nursing Home. She served as foster grandparent in Creek Nation Boarding Eufaula Indian Boarding School. She was a member of West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, the Reverend Coleman Lewis, who died in 1964. She was also preceded in death by two sons, Johnson and Coleman Lewis, three brothers Bennie, John and Daniel Scott, a half brother, Homer Gray, a daughter Rosalie Lewis and a grandson Jerome Richard Tiger, who died in 1967.

Survivors include a daughter, Lucinda Tiger, of Muskogee; four grandchildren, Johnny Tiger, Jr. of Muskogee, Kenneth Tiger of Eufula, Marcy Tiger with the Army in Germany and Rita Tiger Stroble of Muskogee; 15 great grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.*(My apology to the family for the delay in printing this obituary, The Muscogee Nation News.)*

SHIRLEY T. BRUNER

Services were held for Shirley T. Bruner, age 47 on June 3 at the Cedar River Baptist Church. Andrew Deere and Richard Carr officated the service.

Mrs. Bruner was born March 1, 1940 in Carson, Oklahoma. She was married to Fred Bruner of Holdenville.

Survivors include her husband Fred of the home; fours sons, Kenneth Dale and daughter in law Laura Jackson of Holdenville; Jeffrey Jon Jackson of the home; Cpl. Timothy Jackson, Twenty Nine Palms, CA. and Eddie Jackson of the home; two grandchildren and her mother and step-father, Edith and William Harjo of Holdenville and two uncles Roy George of Holdenville and Reed George of Anadarko.

KAREN STARR

Karen Lee Starr, 36, was found dead in her home on July 4. Ms. Starr was born April 10, 1951 in Henryetta; she was a member of Grave Creek Indian Baptist Church.

She is survived by her father, Josh Starr of Henryetta; one daughter, Robin Starr of the home; one brother, David Butler of Okmulgee; five sisters, Helen Butler, Darlene Starr, Rhonda Starr, Jennie Starr, and Betty Scott, all of Okmulgee; and several nieces and nephews.

Wake services were held at Cantrell Ivory Chapel. Funeral services were conducted at Okmulgee Indian Baptist Church. Interment followed in the Okmulgee Indian Baptist Cemetery under the direction of the Cantrell-Kelley Funeral Home.

BILLY RAY (BILL) PITTMAN

Billy Ray (Bill) Pittman, 62, of Eufaula died July 10 at the Veteran's Hospital in Muskogee. Services were held July 14 at Eufaula First Baptist Church with the Reverend Ernest Best officiating. Indian service was conducted at Black's Funeral Home Chapel July 13. Burial was in Greenwood Cemetery with Graveside Masonic Rites conducted by Eufaula Lodge No. 1.

Honorary pallbearers were Edmond Krebs, Jim Bittle, Chief Cox, Robert Simpson Jr., Harley Little, John Sellers Sr., Dr. David Smith, D.O. Freeman, Paul Burke, Ken Childers, Robert Rhineheart, Robert Lane, and Dr. Stanley Smith. Pallbearers were: Mark Downing, Tom McCarter, Dave Hazlewood, Bill Cheatham, Thomas McIntosh and Tom Foresee.

Bill was born March 24, 1925, at Stidham, the son of Samuel Lewis and Ollie Estes Pittman. He was reared in the Stidham community where he graduated from Stidham High School in 1943. He entered the U.S. Army shortly after graduation and served in the European Theater during World War II, being discharged in January 1946. He married the former Martha Jennings on June 4, 1947 at Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Mr. Pittman operated a service station in Eufaula for 40 years and was also active in farming and ranching. He retired November 1, 1986.

He was a 32nd Degree Mason and a member of Eufaula Lodge No. 1, where he was a past worshipful master, a member of McAlester Consistory of Scottish Rite, Bedouin Shrine Temple of Muskogee, McIntosh County Shrine Club, 20 year member of Shrine Mounted Patrol, member of Lake Eufaula VFW Post 8798, served on the board of the Vivian Water Department and was chairman of the Creek Nation Hospital Board for ten years.

Survivors include his wife Martha, of the home; one son, Mike, of Eufaula; his mother, Mrs. Ollie Pittman, of Eufaula; five sisters, Lucille Hallum of Haskell, Ramona Johnson of Tulsa, Estes McIntosh of Bixby, Nadine Buck and Charlotte Turner, both of Eufuala, three brothers, Langston and Glenn, both of Eufaula, and Lincoln of Stidham; and one grandson, Clinton. Bill was preceded in death by his father in 1961.

In Rememberance of Bill Pittman

Bill Pittman was a truly democratic man, not in any political sense, who lived among us dedicating his life to service for others. Nothing was so important it prevented him from taking loads of children to see a nearby circus. Travellers who were stranded were often set on their way through his efforts. He was never too busy to stop and help people in trouble.

He was an amazing man that will remain in the hearts and memories of many people so long as they may live. It is seldom in these days we see a man who never failed to listen to and help those about him.

His was the cause of the poor, the widow, orphans and operessed. He was eyes for the blind and feet to the lame, a friend to all. . .a present day philosopher who practiced what he believed. The people who did not know him missed more than they will ever realize.

Barton Van Sandt

LINNA JACOBS

Linna Mae Jacobs,33,who was a resident of Morris, died in Tulsa on Thursday,July 9 in a Tulsa hospital.

She was born April 18, 1954 in Okmulgee and was preceded in death by her father, Jonas Artussee in 1985.

Survivors include a son, Johnny Joe Jacobs Jr., and two daughters, Shelley and Crystal, all of the home; her mother and step-father, Sissie and Eldon Lewis, Hanna; a brother, Harley Wayne Lewis, Ada; four sisters, Linda Jean Hick, Henryetta, Loretta Artussee, Morris, Chippie Lewis, Hanna and Laura Beaver, Okmulgee; two step-brothers, Sampson Lewis, Tulsa, and Thomas Lewis, Dustin; three step-sisters, Francis Lewis, Hanna, Christina Harrison, Hanna and Pauline Jefferson, Seminole; and her maternal grandmother; Minnie Factor of Morris.

Mrs. Jacobs was taken to the Big Cussetah Church.

Funeral services were set for Monday, July 13, at the Big Cussetah Church. Reverend Henry Tarpalachee officiated.

Interment was in the Artussee Family Cemetery under the direction of the McClendon Funeral Home.

PEDRO GOMEZ

Funeral services were conducted July 17 for Pedro S. Gomez Jr. of Okmulgee.

Mr. Gomez was born August 16, 1963 in San Antonio, Tx. and was a member of the Indian Baptist Mission.

Survivors include his wife Debbie Gomez of the home, one son Tony and one daugther Alicia of the home; his father, Pedro Gomez, Sr. of San Antonio, Tx. and his mother Mary Moses, three brothers, Tony, Paul and Chris Gomez all of McAlester; and one step sister, Karen Burrough of South Carolina.

VERNON HANEY

Rev. Vernon Haney, age 76 died at his home in Seminole on Wednesday July 15. Services were held July 17 at the Hichitee United Methodist Church with Rev. James Spencer and and Rev. Jackson Deer officiating the Rev. Jackson Deer and Rev. Joe Lowe Jr. officiating the service.

Rev. Haney was born April 24, 1911 in Sylvian, Oklahoma and married Frances B. Haney on Feb. 22, 1949 in Seminole County. He was a veteran of World War II serving in the U.S. Army.

Rev. Haney was a retired minister with the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and served the Honeycreek Circuit from 1970-1977. He retired as pastor of Hitchitee United Methodist Church in Seminole in 1980.

Survivors include his wife, Frances B. Haney of the home; four sons, Evan, David and Joseph Haney, all of the home and Aaron Dixon of Okemah; two daugthers, Neomi Harjo of Seminole, and Elizabeth Perkins of Midwest City; one brother, Norman Haney of McCloud; 13 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews.

LUCINDA GREEN

A lifelong resident of Weleetka, Lucinda Green, died July 21 at her home in Weleetka at the age of 98.

Wake services were held at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Weleetka Creek Indian Community Center. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m., July 24 in the Creek Indian Community Center with Rev. Roley Haynes officiating.

Mrs. Green was born May 12, 1889 in Weleetka, the daughter of the late Sam Buckley and Liza Harjo Buckley. She was recently honored by the Creek Nation and the town of Weleetka for being one of the oldest citizens. She was a longtime member of the Alabama Indian Baptist Church near Weleetka.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Amos Green, two sons, Thomas and Lewis Green, seven brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Interment was in the Weleetka Hillcrest cemetery under the direction of the Buckley Funeral Homes of Weleetka and Wetumka.

Creek Receives Master of Divinity Degree

Rosemary McCombs Maxey-from the Creek tribe was born and reared at Dustin, Oklahoma. She is the daughter of Rev. Dave and Sarah McCombs, long active in the "Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Indian Baptist Association."

Rosemary is a graduate of the Dustin High School.

On May 16, 1987, Rosemary received her Master Divinity degree from Lancaster, Pa. Theological Seminary. She also has a Masters in religious Education and Early Childhood Development from Southwestern Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas and a B.S. degree in Home Economics and Religion from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, Okla. Rosemary was one of the top 3 in that graduating class of 26 students; and also received a $100 award for writing the best church history.

Rosemary and husband Rev. Paul Maxey were Home Mission's missionaries for the Southern Baptist Convention for three years in Harrisburg, Pa. and Pittsburg, Pa. plus five years in Brooklyn, New York before moving to West Minister, Md. where Rev. Maxey pastors a Baptist Church and is director of Medical Missions.

Rosemary and Paul have two young sons, Adrian and Ashley.

Family Reunion Set September 12

A reunion of the following families will be held on September 12 south of Henryetta on Salem Rd. (turn north at Ryal School exit): Jacob Long, Lucinda McKellop, Willie Sumka, Lewis Soweka, Bennie Taylor, Sarah Hicks, Annie Bear, Ella Hicks, and all the Charlie Lena families. There will be volleyball, horseshoes, sack races, etc., and a prize for the oldest, youngest and the one traveling the farthest. Starting around 9:30. Friends invited.

Profile on Creek Elders:

POLLY HOMMA, LEFT, WITH SISTER SARA SIMMERS were the great-great neices of the Great War Speaker for the Creeks, Hopere (Apotheola) Yahola.

Polly Homma Remembers Growing Up With Creek Medicine A Way Of Life

By Rita Williams

The world and way of the early Creeks have always been a story of hardships and struggles.

But according to the elders, their ability to survive in a strange land has been their trust in a greater power called Hesaketvmese (Giver of Life).

Recounts of early life still remain with Creek people. One fascinating truth is the knowledge of herbs used for healing that was imparted only to the medicine men.

Polly Homma, 86, full blood Creek, tells about her Great-Great Uncle Hopere Yahola,father Seaborn Miller, and others who were medicine men in their time.

"Yahola was a brother to my grandmother, Pulla Miller (Whitebird) he was a great medicine man and a Chief." "A long time ago Yahola and a group of Indians were being chased by the federal army. They ran until they came upon a valley to hide in between. The federal army surrounded them and had planned to attack them that next morning. That night Yahola begin to speak to his people. "I am going to take you out of here, you must keep quiet and don't say a word to each other." The next morning the army came down upon them, but to their amazement, there was nobody there. They had escaped through the army. They went through the army as they slept. To this day, nobody knows how they got through them." "I guess thats why they called him Hopere Yahola, Indians call this fog or invisible."

"I was born crippled in one leg and was said to be peculiar." "When I was little I would talk to things or hid under the bed and talk. My father was very concerned about me. He heard about a prophet, Indians call them, Owalv. This prophet lived in a little town called, Yahola, which was his name also." "Papa took a bus to visit this man and spent the night talking to him." "This prophet told my father that I was being bothered by the Estelopucke (little people) but not to worry they would stop when I became of age." "But, the little people would shoot an arrow full of blood in my ankle because they were mad, I was part of them."

"Papa never told me this, but he did tell mama and she kept the word a secret."

"When I became a teenager I became crippled in my ankle." "I never really paid attention to the medicine papa used or was interested." "I went to white Doctors and spent alot of money on my ankle." "I finally went to a prophet who lived in Henryetta, we called him Jesse Yvkapv (Walker), he told me that the little people shot an arrow full of blood in my ankle and advised me to go to another doctor to make medicine for me." "It was then my mother told me the story that the prophet Yahola said would happen to me." "If I had known maybe I could have done something."

"I went to a medicine man in Okmulgee by the name of David Deerisaw." "Before the medicine men would doctor they would not eat breakfast." "Every morning he would come and Vkpofketv (bubble or blow into) the medicine." "These men had their own Svkpofketv (medicine stick)." "He told me to pour this medicine over my ankle for four days." "I would prop my leg over a chair, with a hot rock placed below it, mama would then pour the medicine mixed with herbs over my ankle to drip over this hot rock." "The steam from the rock begin to soothe my ankle and on the second day my ankle was well."

Seaborn Miller, known as Kotchvele (Tiger leg), was destined to be a medicine man. According to polly, he always kept his medicine a secret. "They are supposed to be that way, and he never did charge for doctoring." "When I was very young I remember people always coming to see papa." "He never had time for his own but for the service of others." "When people came to the house mama would see them first, they would tell her of the problem then she would go get him." "We would always wonder why it was like that."

"Papa carried with him a pouch Indians call Svpev...and they would say it was alive." "The covering was a deerlike skin." "Medicine men would carry this." "I believe it came from the old country." "As we grew older my father told my mother that it was too dangerous to carry so he would put it in a hollow tree and plug it up." "Later in years as the tree rotted, people have said that they could hear singing at this same spot." "They say (Indians) that you can hear them singing because the Svpev is alive." "There are some things I cannot tell," said Polly, "I never did think I would live to tell these things as old as I am now."

"My family was always Christian people, never stomp dance people and always went to Church...always told that stomp dance was a sin."

"I remember, during a Hotvle Rakko (big wind) or storm we called it, and not tornados, papa would study the winds." "He said that there were always four storm winds." "He would be sitting on the porch and see a small cloud coming and say, "there's going to be a bad storm- better go to the cellar and it would happen that way. . .he would take an axe and split the wind, then put the axe in the ground."

"He taught my mom to doctor us for, headaches, stomach aches, constipation, toothaches and nosebleeds." "I remember having a stomachache and he would rub my stomach and say Ahwanhee. " I didn't know what that meant at the time."

"There was a white doctor one time who couldn't stop a nosebleed on one of his patients." "They called for papa and he stopped it." "Dr. Vernon was his name, he said if he couldn't doctor a patient, that Dr. Miller could."

"Polly spoke in length about her father and fond memories of her mother." "Before mama died, she wanted a hog killed and everything prepared." "She knew that people would be coming to see her and wanted to feed them. She was always welcoming people and cooking for them," Polly remembered. "Mother was ready."

Sam Miller was her brother. He was a carpenter and a plumber. He started the Sunday School classroom at Newtown Methodist Church, but he died before it was completed. Polly states that her family had always attended Tulofa Mucve (Newtown).

Jefferson Berryhill, Scotch Irish, was her grandfather. He was a stone mason and helped to build the Creek Council house. He worked for a plug of tobacco.

Polly married Dave Homma, now deceased. They had no children of their own. She stays at this time with her sister Sara Simmers, who is blind. and waits on her until she can be provided for.

Polly, 86, gets around in a wheelchair, but that doesn't handicap her strong will and sharp mind. She was born and raised in the Okmulgee area. Her tribal town is Concharty and she belongs to the Wind Clan.

NOTE: Polly's Great Great Uncle was the Chief or the Great War Speaker of the Creeks known as Apotheola. (Taken from the Chronicles of Oklahoma) More accurately spelled Hobohithli Yahola, the Hothlibonia or Great War Speaker of the Creeks, whose influence was incomparably greater than that of any other one man in the Creek Nation during most of his lifetime, though he was not titularly a chief as is often stated.

Morning Star Outreach Alcohol/Drug Abuse Prevention Workshops

By Negiel Bigpond

Wake up Indian people. . .thousands and thousands of our Indian youth are crying out for help. Too many parents and adults are not listening. They are caught up in society, business and tribal affairs, looking after dollars instead of the needs of our children. Our traditional ways are to train up our children to be wise and full of knowledge.

It is said by our elders that many tribes use animals such as the fox, wolf and deer as examples to illustrate our behavior. I don't see the fox being foolish with alcohol, drugs, or paint or killing themselves.

Our elders say there is a Great Spirit, the Great Spirit gives us wisdom and knowledge and fullfilment in our lives. So if we tell our youth about this Great Spirit we need to tell them of the spirit of life not death. I've seen hundreds and hundreds of our Indian people in prisons all over Oklahoma all because there is no teaching whether it is traditional Native American Church or the Christian Church, or whether it is going to Pow-Wows or Stomp Dances there is no teaching. I've heard a lot of talk but no teaching. I say this not because I've been told by other people, but because I've seen it in rehabilitation centers. So I encourage all elders, tribal leaders, pastors to fast and pray about this great problem as we did in the days of old. Today our children are being raised in a drug oriented world. With literally thousands of our Indian youth commiting suicide and destroying their brains, bodies with drugs and alcohol, the need is great for education, intervention and prevention. Morning Star Outreach is offering a series of educational fering a series of educational programs to the Creek Indian Communities. The participation from the Tulsa Community has been successful. Any community or organization interested in this program may contact either Negiel Bigpond or Jack Sunagoowie at 918/366-3300.

Creek Nation Festival '87 Results—

Despite a heavy downpour of rain that threatened the events of the Friday, June 19th Olympics, the competition, keen and enthusiastic, went on at Harmon Stadium in Okmulgee. The Olympics, coordinated by Bunny Hill, CN employee, is the kickoff of the three-day Annual Creek Nation Festival.

In this year's Olympics, according to Bunny Hill, there were no preliminary events, only the finals- "We hope to eliminate the cases of heat exhaustion that we saw last year," he said. The field events were held in the morning and the relay races were held in the afternoon. The Olympics this year drew 24 teams from the state and surrounding states.

Bunny wishes to thank all of those (too numerous to mention) who volunteered their time to help in the Olympics.

Softball Throw

6-7 Boys

1st Place-Larry Noble-Coweta-87.9
2nd Place-Matt Chamberlain-Yardeka-85.8
3rd Place-Gary Don Walker-Chickasaw-80.11

8-9 Boys

1st Place-Thomas Fixico-Springfield-124.1
2nd Place-James Higgins-Eufaula-101.2
3rd Place-Jason Tiger-Chickasaw-98

10-11 Boys

1st Place-Ross White-Glenpool-126.6
2nd Place-Joe West-Okfuskee-126.1
3rd Place-Lucas Columbus-Sapulpa-123.4

6-7 Girls

1st Place-Fonda Frank-Henryetta-48.9 1/2
2nd Place-Larissa Foley-Morris-44.9
3rd Place-Vanessa Lewis-Eufaula-43.8

8-9 Girls

1st Place-Jessica Walter-Chickasaw-86.1
2nd Place-Salina Emathle-Chickasaw-76.9
3rd Place-Kristen Childers-Glenpool-73.5

10-11 Girls

1st Place-Tina Hicks-Okfuskee-99.7
2nd Place-Louisa Brown-Coweta-97.1
3rd Place-Ester Yargee-Sand Creek-92.1

Team Trophies went to: 1st-Eufaula-2nd-Chickasaw Nation-3rd-Morris-Sportsmanship-Okfuskee

Shotput

12-13 Girls

1st Place-Melissa Culley-Okfuskee-28'6
2nd Place-Julia Wilson-Eufaula-25'8
3rd Place-Victoria Kelly-Okmulgee-22'1

12-13 Boys

1st Place-Shane Spencer-Kellyville-31'7 1/2
2nd Place-Matt Wilson-Okmulgee-26'2
3rd Place-Little Cho Lindsey-Eufaula-24'6

14-15 Girls

1st Place-Stacy Sands-Okfuskee-27 1/2
2nd Place-Ywonda Fixico-Springfield Church-25'7
3rd Place-Stephanie Harjo-Eufaula-22'4

14-15 Boys

1st Place-Joe Dan Thomas-Eufaula-42'3 1/2
2nd Place-Kendall Roberts-Okfuskee-41'11
3rd Place-Phillip Whinery-Kellyville-37'

Tug-O-War

6-7 Girls

1st Place-Muskogee-12
2nd Place-Okfuskee-8
3rd Place

6-7 Boys

1st Place-Henryetta-12
2nd Place-Muskogee-8
3rd Place-Morris-4

Longjump

10-11 Girls

1st Place-Mistie Wind-Cromwell-12'8
2nd Place-Ginny Sumka-Henryetta-10'7
3rd Place-Denise Miller-Springfield Church-9'8

10-11 Boys

1st Place-Erwin Bear-Yardeka-12'5
2nd Place-Thomas Stewart-Coweta-11'10
3rd Place-Curtis Harjo-Okfuskee-10'2 1/4

12-13 Girls

1st Place-Melinda Hill-Eufaula-14'6 1/2
2nd Place-Melanie Fixico-Eufaula-12'5 1/2
3rd Place-Maryanna Watashe-kellyville-11'9 1/2

12-13 Boys

1st Place-Carl Snow-Henryetta-16'8 1/2
2nd Place-Spencer McIntosh-Eufaula-13'9 & 13'5 1/2
3rd Place-Chris Grave-Muskogee-13'9 & 13'

14-15 Girls

1st Place-Joanie Childers-Glenpool-13'5 1/4
2nd Place-April Frazier-Dallas-13'3 1/2
3rd Place-Jackie Davis-Okmulgee-12'4 1/2

14-15 Boys

1st Place-Michael Frye-Henryetta-16'7
2nd Place-Brian Larney-Dallas-16'7
3rd Place-Eddie Lara-Eufaula-16'3 3/4

400 Relays

6-7 Girls

1st Place-Okfuskee-1:22.93
2nd Place-Morris-1:19.51
3rd Place-Eufaula-1:44.11

6-7 Boys

1st Place-Eufaula-1:16.23
2nd Place-Morris-1:17.87
3rd Place-Okfuskee-1:19.13

8-9 Girls

1st Place-Okfuskee-1:11.24
2nd Place-Chickasaw-1:12.3
3rd Place-Eufaula-1:15.47

8-9 Boys

1st Place-Eufaula-1:09.10
2nd Place-Kellyville-1:11.78
3rd Place-Chickasaw-1:12.40

10-11 Girls

1st Place-Henryetta-1:06.55
2nd Place-Okfuskee-1:07.46
3rd Place-Chickasaw-1:08.30

10-11 Boys

1st Place-Chickasaw-1:01.74
2nd Place-Okfuskee-1:04.72
3rd Place-Morris-1:05.38

12-13 Girls

1st Place-Eufaula-58.20
2nd Place-Chickasaw-59.8
3rd Place-Morris-1:08.86

12-13 Boys

1st Place-Chickasaw-55.49
2nd Place-Henryetta-56.61

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE OLYMPIC GAMES, Jerrie On-The-Hill, Morris, Left, and Phyllis St. John, Okmulgee, right, are intent upon keeping score for the event.

3rd Place-Okmulgee-57.87

400 Relays

14-15 Girls

1st Place-Chickasaw

14-15 Boys

1st Place-Chickasaw-52.06
2nd Place-Eufaula-52.27
3rd Place-Okfuskee-63.08

400 Relays

6-7 Mixed

1st Place-Morris-1:16.06
2nd Place-Muskogee-1:25.67
3rd Place-Henryetta-1:26.40

8-9 Mixed

1st Place-Morris

10-11 Mixed

1st Place-Coweta-1:04.35
2nd Place-Okmulgee-1:08.15
3rd Place-Springfield Church-1:08.61

12-13 Mixed

1st Place-Chickasaw-1:00.32
2nd Place-Springfield Church-1:01.39
3rd Place-Kellyville-1:03.03

14-15 Mixed

1st Place-Kellyville-56.05
2nd Place-Springfield Church-56.31
3rd Place-Okmulgee-56.88

800 Run

12-13 Girls

1st Place-Melanie King-Eufaula-3:01.24
2nd Place-Sherry Kaudelekaule-Red Deer-3:12.65

12-13 Boys

1st Place-Travis Scott-Springfield Church-3:02.84
2nd Place-Joe Martell-Morris-3:05.25
3rd Place-William Haney-Morris-3:86.08

14-15 Girls

14-15 Girls

1st Place-Dawn Yahola-Muskogee-3:05.78
2nd Place-Thomasina Byrd-Morris-3:07.02
3rd Place-Kim Harry-Muskogee-2:49.82

100 Meter

6-7 Girls

1st Place-Jamie Haney-Morris-17.46
2nd Place-Casha Harjo-Henryetta-18.79
3rd Place-Justina Factor-Okmulgee-18.92

6-7 Boys

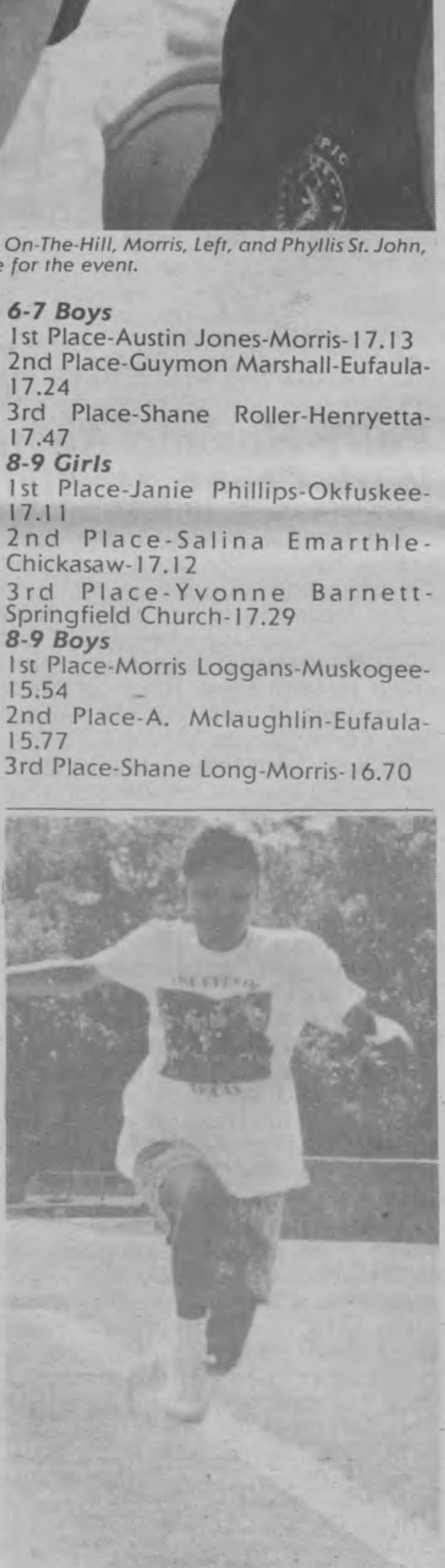
1st Place-Austin Jones-Morris-17.13
2nd Place-Guymon Marshall-Eufaula-17.24
3rd Place-Shane Roller-Henryetta-17.47

8-9 Girls

1st Place-Janie Phillips-Okfuskee-17.11
2nd Place-Salina Emarthle-Chickasaw-17.12
3rd Place-Yvonne Barnett-Springfield Church-17.29

8-9 Boys

1st Place-Morris Loggans-Muskogee-15.54
2nd Place-A. Mclaughlin-Eufaula-15.77
3rd Place-Shane Long-Morris-16.70



PARTICIPATING IN THE LONG JUMP, this young lady was a member of a Dallas church team, one of the many teams entering the Olympics this year.

Olympic Results . . .

100 Meter

10-11 Girls
1st Place-Lisa Noble-Coweta-15.87
2nd Place-Jennifer Harjo-Henryetta-16.06
3rd Place-Denise Miller-Springfield Church-16.09

10-11 Boys
1st Place-Zachary Ledford-Coweta-15.13
2nd Place-Irwin Bear-Yardeka-15.30
3rd Place-Tyler McIntosh-Eufaula-15.45

12-13 Girls
1st Place-Andy Nicholas-Eufaula-13.85
2nd Place-Kim McNac-Yardeka-14.27
3rd Place-Jennifer Hudson-Glenpool-15.24

12-13 Boys
1st Place-J.Fish-Henryetta-13.85
2nd Place-D.Morris-Chickasaw-13.88
3rd Place-Lewis-Chickasaw-13.92

14-15 Girls
1st Place-April Frazier-Dallas-13.79
2nd Place-Jo Lynn Tiger-Kellyville-13.99
3rd Place-M.Jackson-Okmulgee-15.05

14-15 Boys
1st Place-Jason Phillips-Okmulgee-12.36
2nd Place-Jason Frazier-Dallas-12.67
3rd Place-Cameron Clark-Eufaula-12.89

Horseshoes

The CN Festival Horseshoe Tournament was held at the Omniplex grounds with the following results: ***1st Place:*** David Montgomery, ***2nd Place:*** Mike McIntosh, ***3rd Place:*** Robert Komahchet. Yommie Monahwee, CN G.S.A. employee coordinated the tournament assisted by Zenas Dowling. There were 31 single entries and 20 doubles.

CREEK HUSBAND/WIFE TEAM, *Robert Komahchet and Dara Komahchet, competed in the CN Festival Horseshoe Tournament. Robert took Third Place in the Tourny.*

Volleyball

The CN Volleyball Tournament was held on the Omniplex grounds and was coordinated by the Yardeka Indian Community.

Winners in the Tournament are; ***First Place*** - Tulsa Warriors, ***Second Place*** - Sasakwa Team, ***Third Place*** - Cherokee Stars. ***Sportsmanship Trophy*** went to Bud's Team, coached by Buddy Beaver.

Tennis

The CN Festival Tennis Tournament was held June 20-21 at the Okmulgee tennis courts. Kathy Polen coordinated.

The results are as follows:

Men's Singles
1st Place - Paul Chissoe
2nd Place - Ron Qualls

Men's Doubles
1st Place - Don Fixico & Paul Chissoe
2nd Place - Max Factor & Ron Qualls
Consolation - Brett Rangel & Bob Hefley

Women's Singles
1st Place - Dot McLemore
2nd Place - Laurie Fox
Consolation - Jill Dew

Women's Doubles
1st Place - Jennifer Wilson & Ellen Hawzipta
2nd Place - Dot McLemore & Laurie Fox
Consolation - Paula Hefley & Marisa Hefley

Men's Intermediate Singles
1st Place - Ray Alford
2nd Place - Lance Parton
Consolation - Troy Larney

Men's Intermediate Doubles
1st Place - Ray Alford & Lance Parton
2nd Place - Brett Rangel & Bob Hefley
Consolation - David Palmer & Wyman Matthews

Women's Intermediate Singles
1st Place - Paula Hefley
2nd Place - Marisa Hefley
Consolation - Kathy Polen

Women's 35 Singles
1st Place - Pat Factor
2nd Place - Sue Pritchett
Consolation - Phyllis Davis

Mixed Doubles
1st Place - Don Fixico & Dot McLemore
2nd Place - Max Factor & Jennifer Wilson
Consolation - Charlie Boggs & Phyllis Davis

Golf

The CN Golf Tournament was held June 20-21 at the Fountainhead State Park Golf Course, with Rick Kelley and Steve Kordis coordinating.

Medalist - Jeff Fleming
Longest Drive - Al Milton
Longest Drive (Women) - Beverly Parton
Closest to Hole (Mens) Cecil Tiger
Closest to Hole (Women) - Ruby Perry
Champion (Men)- 1. Donnie Weaver, 2. Jim Crawford, 3.Jeff Fleming
Women Champions - Liz Harjo, Katie Alfred, Beverly Pardon
A Flight Women - Jerry Harjo Ruby Perry and Marion Mitchell
C Flight - Chris Fixico, Burl Berry, Best Perry
D Flight - Gene Harjo, Bill Pardon, S.S. Burgess
B Flight - Darrell Sanders, Floyd Burgess, Yancy York
A Flight - Robert Liles, Henry Ben and Jess Toliver

THE SOFTBALL THROW DRAWS ATTENTION *from the other contestants as they await their turn.*

ANDREW PROCTOR, WEOGUFKEE TEAM, HANNA *returns a serve to opposing volleyball team as team mate, Della Barnett, right, Henryetta, watches.*

THE TUG-OF-WAR, THE NEWEST OLYMPIC EVENT, *was a event specifically designed for the younger Olympic participants and was enjoyed by all. Shown above, taking First Place for the Girls, are members of the Muskogee Team, who competed against Okfuskee, who came in Second place for girls. First Place for the boys went to Henryetta.*

OBSERVING FROM THE ANNOUNCERS STAND AT THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL CREEK NATION RODEO ARENA IN OKMULGEE, *are the 1987 Creek Nation Princess, Rhonda Harjo, Susan Bear of Oklahoma City, Rita Williams, Timer, Bob Davis, Timer, and announcer Sam Howry of Oklahoma City.*

13th Annual Creek Nation Rodeo A Success - Draws Large Number of Out-of-State Entries

By Rita Williams

The Creek Nation Rodeo Club finished their 13th annual rodeo held in Okmulgee at the Creek Nation Rodeo grounds June 19-21.

Contestants once again came from across the United States to compete for the $7500 purse money. A total of 267 contestants entered the rodeo.

Among the many talents gifted to the Indian is his ability to ride. The tradition and culture has been displayed down through the years by warriors who have gone on before us.

Unfortunately, a part of rodeo are the risks of injury. Saturday night, a bull rider was taken to the Okemah Hospital after the bull which he mounted in the shoot, threw him inside the pen. He was released with no broken bones, but suffered cuts to his head which called for many stitches and was on his way the next day back to Arizona.

Aside from injuries,the weather was also against the cowboys. Friday night, the rain waited until after the performance to pour upon everybody and make the riding a little more tough and the arena a sea of mud. They roped, bull-dogged and were thrown in the mud. Before it was over - one comment was heard from a cowboy as he picked up his muddy hat, "man, what a way to rodeo!"-you might say, it just comes with the territory.

Preparations for the rodeo are planned a year in advance with each member doing more than their share to make the rodeo a success. Aside from the rodeo, the club donates to different charities, families in distress and under-privileged children.

Despite all the unpredictables th rodeo was a success.

These are the results of the Creek Nation Rodeo. Those listed with the AO are the cowboys representing the All-Indian Rodeo Association of Oklahoma.

Bullriding

1st. Brad Fish-AO
2nd. Bobby Pablo-AI
3rd. Ray Tolth-AI
4th. Tommy Trott-AO
5th. Mika Calico-AO
6th. Eldon Foote-

Bareback

1st. Alvin Begay-AI
2nd. Edison Roan-NN
3rd. Glen Adeky-NN
4th. Robert Palmer-AO

Saddle Bronc Riding

1st. Tommy Tsosie-NN
2nd. Carlton Pioche-AI
3rd. Mark Realbird-
4th. T.O. Yazzie-AO

Team Roping

1st. Roy Begay and Benny Jaye-NN
2nd. Dick Foreman and Tarz Foreman-AO
3rd. Davy Bacon and Doyle Bacon-AO
4th. Dee Keener and Butch Smith-AO
5th. Tex Foreman and Short Foreman-AO
6th. Hollis Jodie and Willis Jodie-NN

Steer Wrestling

1st. Shawn Realbird
2nd. Alan Murdaugh-AO
3rd. Jacob Antone-NN
4th. Howard Edmonson-
5th. Ron Hammer-AO
6th. Lou Antone-NN

Senior Barrels

1st. Vicki Adams-AO
2nd. Sissy Williams-AO
3rd. Ross Brown-AO
4th. Kerri Adams-AO

Calf Roping

1st. Joe Pickens-AO
2nd Dee Keener-AO
3rd. Jack Foreman-AO
4th. Benny Parkinson-

Creek Nation Rodeo Parade

CLAUDE COX
CLAUDE COX

CHIEF CLAUDE COX AND SECOND CHIEF PERRY BEAVER *are shown riding in the Creek Nation Rodeo Parade held on Saturday of the Creek Nation Festival in Okmulgee.*

Kim Hicks Crowned '87 CN Rodeo Queen

This year the Creek Nation Rodeo club had two contestants vying for the Rodeo queen title. They were Kim Hicks from Graham and Missy Colbert from Stidham. The contestants sold ads, jackets, t-shirts and visors as a part of the contest, but most important is the horsemanship by which they were judged along with their personality and appearance. Kim Hicks won the crown. She is the daughter of Louis and Gloria Hicks. She is the granddaughter of Houston and Eliza Hicks.

Kim will be a senior at Graham High School of Weleetka. Her future plans are to receive a teaching degree. Kim is a member of the Region Eight Association and is a barrel-racer. She competes in All-Indian rodeos throughout Oklahoma and out-of state as well.

The judges for this years Creek Nation Rodeo contest were, Lisa Hamilton of Okmulgee and Vicki Adams of Stuart.

Rodeo Results...

5th. Howard Edmonson-
6th. Curtis Etsitty-NN

Jr. Barrels

Friday Night
1st. Kerri Adams
1st. Kerri Adams-AO
2nd. Jessica Begay-NN
3rd. Ella Hicks-AO
Saturday Night
1st. Kerri Adams-AO
2nd. Kim Calico-AO
3rd. Laurie Hicks-AO
Sunday Night
1st. Kerri Adams-AO
2nd. Ross Brown-AO

9th Annual Pow-Wow of Champions Aug. 28-30

The Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa is hosting the 9th Annual Pow-Wow of Champions on August 28, 29, 30 at the Tulsa State Fairgrounds (Expo Square), between 15th and 21st off Yale). There is free parking, free admission and air conditioned building. There will be contest and prize money in all divisions with a big arts and crafts exhibit.

For more information, call 918-836-1523 or 425-0996. Admission is free, plenty of camping available, no alcoholic beverages allowed.

Father's Day Dinner at Complex

***RECEIVING HONORS AT THE ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY DINNER HELD JUNE 18TH AT THE CN COMPLEX, ARE DAVID BIBLE, LEFT, AND WEBSTER CHALAKEE** who both received a certificate - Chalakee, Okmulgee, for the Father having the most children. He and wife Martha, have eleven children, and Mr. Bible, Glenpool, for being the oldest Father present. The annual dinner, which was held at the CN Complex dining room, is hosted by the CN Elderly Nutrition Program and was attended this year by over 100 Indian elders. Rev. Solomon Bullet, Okmulgee, and pastor of the Little Cussetah Baptist Church in Sapulpa, gave the message at the dinner.*

Robison Family Reunion Draws 155

The descendents of Colonel William Robison Creek tribesman and early day educator had their annual reunion at Thlopthlocco tribal town near Okemah with 155 present, 15 attending from out-of-state.

Colonel Robison was a Colonel in the Civil War, later was a Supt. of the old Wetumka Mission Southeast of Wetumka, Okla until his death in the early 1900s.

The officers, Mrs. Emma Lou Duncan and her sister Mrs. Elizabeth Trickey, both of Okemah, Okla had the reunion, all organized and will again serve next year.

Amos Ben Birdcreek, employee of Haskell Indian Jr. College, Lawrence, Kansas was master of ceremonies.

There was no horse shoe tournament this year due to heavy rains.

The two oldest surviving granddaughters of the Colonel was Susie Foster of Okemah and Pearlie Scott of Fountainview Rest Home of Henryetta who are the same age, both received very attractive throw pillars made by Emma Lou.

Creek Chief Claude Cox was a guest and received a beaded key chain as a momento as did Ben Birdcreek. The three Robison families from Anchorage, Alaska the money gift they received for the fartherest to be used for utilities for the reunion.

From out-of-state was, Brick Autry, Demmitt, Texas, Dale, Kathy, Beth and Grant Robison from Houston Texas, Travis Brucke from Salem, S.C, Lester and Faye Dalton from Old Fort, N.C., Bernice and Teresa Hudgen, from Glen Alpine, N.C., Lena Joy from Alamogardo, N.M., Willis and Louise Robison from Upper Lake, Calif., Robbie "Pig" and Ruth Robison from Keys, Calif, Val, Given, Kim, Wesley, Shawn Perry and Linda Sue Norbury from Klamath, Calif, also Zelma Robison Quigley Raydean and Donna Robison from Anchorage, Alaska, also Bernice Robison Kirkland from Anchorage and her son Terry Horton from Baytown, Texas. From Oklahoma City, Thomas and Lila Robison, William A, Randi, William D and Mike Robison, Katie Robison, Spencer, Okla, from Norman Okla, Amos Robison, Linda Carrie and Mont Edminsten. From Choctaw Okla, Bill, Beth and Bonnie Grimsley, Thomas Robison from Yukon. Mark, Bonnie Jason and Jody Sanders. From Stillwater, Julia, Suzanne and Barry Langen. Amy Palmer from Ardmore, her brother Rev. George and Ruby Jesse from Sasakawa, Mel and Joyce Autry, Thackerville, Okla, Rebecca Robison Lindsey, Wewoka and her sons Nolen, Lenore, Scott and Kevin Robinson, Coweta and Craig, Trisa, Stephen, Angela, Wesley, Travis Robinson from Holdenville. Tommy Joe Robison from Lamar, OKla.

Melton, Dana, Jessica and Josiah Edminsten from McAlester. Helene McKellop, Olagah, Michele McKellop from Broken Arrow, John and Reni Ryan from Tulsa, Ruth (Mrs Abner) Robison from Sand Springs and daughters, Ruby and Don Smith from Sapulap, Valerie and Charles Stuckey from Wetumka, Jackie Bezzel and Judy Schultz from Sand Springs.

From Henryetta, Pauline, Clifton, Togo Randall, Tom Berryhill and grandson Shawn Williams. From Paden, Rufus and Phyllis Robison, Randal, Tina, Rachel, Rene, Randi Robison, Mr and Mrs. Barney and Nicholas Robison, Everett Sander, William and Mildred Robison, Mr. and Mrs. Frank and Jodi Robison. From Okemah, Cheryl, Joel, Becky, Amy, Noel Bartosh, Juanita Finks Klingman, Dorothy Finks Miller, Susie Foster, Fletcher, Leigh Ann and Rachel Duncan Loyd and Lizzie Roper, John and Dorothy Edminsten, Mary and Consuela Robison, Josephine and Gregory Johnson, Pearlie and Achela Wiggins, Riter Fall, Eddie Hattsfield, Mary and Cheryl Taylor.

From Wetumka, Mrs. Richard (Jessie) Robison and grandsons David and Rickey

Burney, Camille and Michele Gann and Aron Johnson.

From Weleetka, "Buddy" Joe Robison and son Eddie, Linda, Melissa, and Loretta Robison, Gary, Katy, Tony, Kristy and Jana Langston, Sinah and Jessie and Adrian Birdcreek.

Research Grant Received to Conduct Study on Diabetes Among Creeks

Interview by Gary Robinson
Article by Kathryn Bell

Dr. John Moore, head of the Anthropology Department at the University of Oklahoma, Norman has been notified that his proposal for a research grant has been approved in the amount of $70,000 to conduct an initial study of diabetes among Creek Indians.

The grant, awarded through the American Diabetes Association, is designed, according to Dr. Moore, (the associate researcher on the project) to show the genetic link and predisposition of Indians to the diabetic-related diseases. Kenneth Weiss, of Pennsylvania State University, and Dr. Moore's co-worker, will be the Principle Researcher and Geneticist on the project.

Explaining the high rate of diabetes among American Indians currently, Dr. Moore said, "Before 1950 studies show that there was no diabetes among Indians and now there is a 100% chance of getting diabetes by the time an Indian is 70 years old." Moore said the study will look for environmental variables and genetic variables that could be triggering the disease. Geneologies will be written up for each participating family, as well as nutrition questionaires completed. Other factors such as water sources, chemicals in the water and other environmental factors will be examined as well.

The first phase of the study will be an initial screening of Creek subjects.

"We will go block by block in Okmulgee and road by road in Okfuskee County in the screening process," said Moore who added the first phase of the project will start in September. There are 300 urban and 300 rural Creeks to be screened or 25 rural and 25 urban Creek families selected for screening. "These families will be selected on the basis of large, existing extended families," he said.

Through the study, high risk families will hopefully be identified and preventive measures can be prescribed against diabetes, Moore continued, explaining that a large portion of the grant will be used to do lab analysis of the findings at Pennsylvania State. Also, Creek people will be hired to conduct the interviews in the first phase of the project, as well as a nurse and interviewer for more extensive interviewing of the 50 families. The results of the this initials sample, which will be used to ascertain a trend for further research, will be known by the end of 1988.

"Through this project, we hope to be able to prevent diabetes in future generations "of American Indian people," concluded Moore.

The study will try and correlate the susceptibility of adult-onset, non-insulin dependent diabetes and related diseases, to the consequence of Indian people moving from a traditional to a modern environment. Current research shows that American Indian people throughout the hemisphere are experiencing a recent and major epidemic of this diabetes-related diseases. This epidemic also involves a tendencey to become obese at an early adult age, the formation of cholestrol gallstones and gallbladder cancer.

CN Realty Program Receives Commendation-

***PRINCIPAL CHIEF COX, ALONG WITH THE BIA, PRESENTS ROBBIN CROSSIER (center) WITH** a "Special Commendation" for her contribution in the development of the Integrated Records Management System (IRMS) in the Creek Nation Realty Program. Due to Robbin's resourcefulness and determination to perform duties beyond her immediate responsibilities she completed the encoding of both lease and ownership data within the established timeframe. Standing to her left is Rodney Durosette, Realty Program Manager.*

A TRADITIONAL FAREWELL HANDSHAKE CEREMONY *is held by the campmeeting attendees as they embrace and close the circle of unity at the close of their Senior Methodists Ministers Campmeeting.*

Camp Meeting For Retired Ministers Held At Concharty Indian Methodist Church

By Rita Williams

The Senior Methodists held their annual campmeeting at Concharty Church July 17-19.

Friday night at 7:00 the campmeeting started with Reverend Newman Frank and the welcome service. Devotion was by Reverend Ben Harjo and the sermon by Rev. Tom Washington.

Saturday, Reverend Walter McHenry held the sunrise service. Devotions that day were held by, Rev. Tom Marshall, Lillie Harjo, Nathar Billy, Rebecca Stroud, and Johnson Tarpalechee. Sermons were held by, Rev. Joe Washington, Rev. Lee Chupco, Rev. John Lowe, Rev. Tom Berryhill and Rev. Willie Gooden. A special Cherokee song was by, Faye Holden.

Sunday, Melissa Deere held the sunrise service. Love Feast was held by Fannie Chalakee. Devotions were held by, Peggy Chalakee. Sermons were held by, Rev. Joe Lowe Jr. Pauline Billy was in charge of the memorial service, honoring pastors, friends, and relatives of the Methodist conference who have gone on before us. The communion by, Rev. Newman Frank. Dave Yargee was the director of the Farewell Handshake. Friends parted with the traditional handshake and embraces as they closed the circle of unity.

Secretary, Eloise Long commented on the campmeeting. "The turn out was very good." "It takes alot of planning and hardwork for successful endings." "This year the quarterly meeting will be held in October and the announcements of next years location for campmeeting will possibly be in October or January."

Birth Announcements-

Holly Rene Watashe

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Johnson Watashe announce the birth of their daughter, Holly Rene Go-ste-nee, born at Claremore Indian Hospital July 7 at 4:53 p.m., weighing 8 lbs., 1 oz. Paternal grandparents are Roman and Martha Watashe, Kellyville and maternal grandparents are Nova and Marie Moore, Pawnee, and Anthony Arkeketa, Ponca City. Holly belongs to the Euchee, Creek, Ponca, Otoe, Pawnee tribes.

Eli Mekko Postoak

Paul and Ricky Carol Postoak of Wewoka announce the birth of their son, Eli Mekko Postoak, born 4:25 p.m., Thursday, June 11, at the Valley View Regional Hospital, Ada. He weighed seven pounds, fourteen ounces and was 19 1/2 inches in length. Maternal grandmother is Maybelle Moore of Eufaula. Parental grandmother is Lizzie Postoak of Wewoka.

Creek Student Excels in Academics

ROBYN WHITECLOUD

Robyn Whitecloud has earned the honor of Salutatorian of her Senior class by maintaining a 3.75 grade point average throughout her four years of high school. She has participated in several scholastic meet all four years. Among the subjects she tested in were Oklahoma History, Accounting I, General Math, and Home Economics II. She won a scholarship from Okla. State University Technical Branch in Okmulgee. Robyn has been a member of the Principals Honor Roll for four consecutive years and her biography was published in Who's Who Among American High School Students during the Junior Year.

Robyn was the fifth ranked person in her class of Preston High School and had been in the 4-H Club for 9 years and had won numerous Awards in 4H. She also made a 21 on her ACT in December. Robyn also served as the reporter of her sophomore year, and she was a member of the yearbook staff. Her future plans include attending college at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah this fall. She is currently working in the Education Department, BIA Building in Washington, D.C.

Robyn is the daughter of Sharon Willis of Okmulgee and the granddaughter of Vena Randall of Tulsa and Dave Powell of Okmulgee. Her grandparents are Mabel Sampson Hill and Wiley Sampson of Okmulgee. Her father is Gary Whitecloud of Tulsa. Paternal grandparents are Rena Buck, Tulsa, Douglas Whitecloud, Red Rock, Ok and Monoah Gray and the late Mose Gray of Bixby.

Letter From Evangelist Ernest Best. . .

"Then saith he unto his disciples, the harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Matthew 9: 37,38

There are many Indian churches in eastern Oklahoma who are blessed with Indian pastors. Of the 585 Indian Baptist churches in the United States, there are over 300 in Oklahoma. Many Indians of the tribes of other states and Canada are aware of this. They have often said. "Why don't you send us a preacher from Oklahoma?" Others have said. "It is not fair, you have had the gospel for over a hundred years and we have only just heard."

We can see how we have failed in the great commission. We have been content to enjoy the benefits of being Christians and worshipping God in our own little communities, and have not been concerned about the regions beyond of the Indian nations. Now a large majority of our pastors are very elderly and there aren't many young men surrendering to the ministry. Of those who are, there aren't many who will consider the mission field for their life work.

May we challenge you to pray that God will call Indian men and women to go the different tribes and nations. May we challenge you, our brothers and sisters in our Indian churches to pray, "Lord send me." If it is past the time when you could go, pray, "Lord send our sons and daughters." Preach it from your pulpits and teach it in your classrooms. Sometimes we are afraid of what might happen if God calls them. We have seen what happens when they don't serve God. We want great things for our children, yet the greatest thing that could happen to them is for God to call them unto His service. "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord...As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are the children of the youth." Psalms 127 3,4 ..As flaming arrows, the children of the Godly, sent out with the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us dedicate our children to God, train them, and prepare them for God's service, and ask Him to call them to evangelize every tribe and nation.

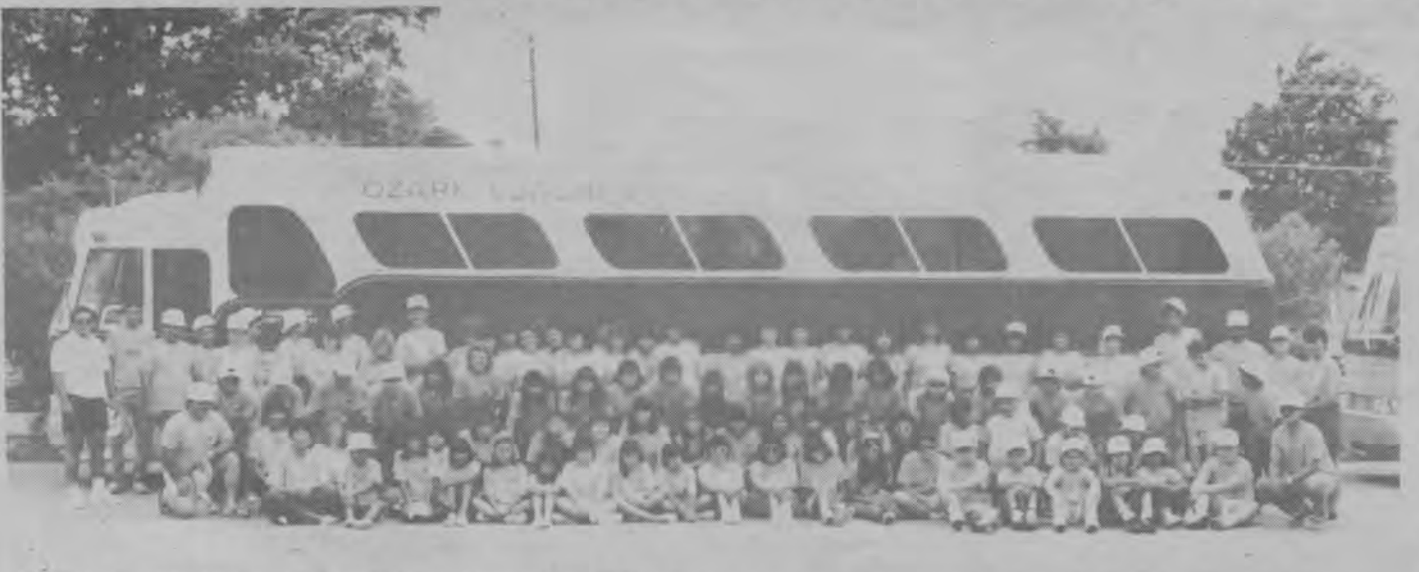
In June, I went for the first time to the Cherokee reservation in North Carolina. I preached a revival at Big Cove Baptist Church, in Cherokee, N.C. The other church in the area also visited during the week. It was a blessing to see so many of our Indian people coming together to hear God's word preached. God blessed with one being saved and others coming for prayer and renewing their vows to the Lord.

We stayed one week in Chattanooga, Tenn., with Bro. Jack Reiss. We were in three churches sharing this work and preaching. Then we went to Georgia, to Faith Baptist Campmeeting. What a blessing it was for my son and me to hear some great men of God preach His word. It was a week of refreshing to our souls and just what we needed spiritually. We then went to Harlem, Ga., where I preached on Sunday. The Lord met with us and we had a great service.

We asked those churches with whom we shared this ministry to pray, and we ask you to pray on our behalf that the Holy Spirit might open the spiritual eyes of the Indian people to the gospel of Christ. We are about to begin our extended tour of this year. Our son, Gerald, is joining with us in this work. He will be playing the piano, doing special music, working with youth, and taking care of our tape ministry. We are very happy to have him with us. Please continue to pray for our safety in traveling, our health, and, most importantly, that the Lord will use us. We thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support of this work.

Your missionaries to the
North American Indians,
Bro. Ernest & Bennie Best

A Successful CN Health Careers Camp Was Held at Eufaula Dorm



INDIAN YOUTH FROM 18 DIFFERENT OKLAHOMA TRIBES are shown as they, their sponsors, Eufaula Dormitory staff, and chaperones prepare to board the bus for a field trip to Claremore Indian Hospital-a part of the activities scheduled for the 3-day Health Careers Camp held at the Eufaula Dormitory June 21-24.

By Kathryn Bell

The Creek Nation Community Health Services sponsored a successful Health Careers Camp June 21-24 at the CN Eufaula Dormitory in Eufaula. Ninety-two youth, from 18 tribes across Oklahoma and Kansas (ages 12 - 15 years) registered to attend the camp.

The coordinators of the Camp, Bunny Hill and Steven Landsberry of the CN Community Health Program, said the theme of the camp was "Indian Pride on The Move," and this theme was carried out by inviting Indian medical and health professionals to conduct workshops dealing with the health careers camp. "These Indian health care professionals were not only presentors at the workshops, but served as successful role models for our youth, as well," said Hill. These presentors included; Dr. Jim Lambert, Optometrist, Dr. Kelly Moore, Pediatrician; George Holuby, Pharmacist; Betty Brown, Registered Nurse; Jess French, Emergency Medical Technician; and William McCombs, Sanitarian.

Hill and Landsberry felt the camp was successful from the standpoint of the positive response of the youth attending the various workshops, in particular those workshops dealing with positive self-motivation: "We feel the student's senses were opened to the fact and realization that whatever they set their minds, bodies and souls to accomplish - they can indeed accomplish their goals - and they can feel proud of that accomplishment," said Landsberry.

In the area of self-development, Dick Roberts of the Dale Carnegie Institute conducted a two-hour workshop on self-image and motivation, while Vivian Juan, the University of New Mexico, presented a workshop on negative vs. postive stimuli in our environment and how it affects the individual. Ramona Moore from the University of Oklahoma presented a stress management and problem-solving seminar.

Dan Burgess, of the CN Higher Ed program spoke to the youth on scholarship opportunities available for the health and medical field. Barbara Roy, IHS representative, also highlighted scholarships available through IHS.

Also speaking to the youth were Van McIntosh, Administrator of the Eufaula Dormitory, who gave the Welcome on the first day of the camp.

A tour through Claremore Indian Hospital was taken by the youth as well as fun activities such as visiting the Will Rogers Museum, going to McDonalds, and a Cook-Out.

The Eufaula Dormitory provided a ready-made setting for housing the students. The dormitory staff provided meals, lodging and recreational activities for the youth. "We would like to express our appreciation to the administration and staff of the dormitory for their cooperation in the Camp, " said Bunny Hill, who also wished to thank the management and staff of the Claremore Indian Hospital for their tour, the workshop presentors and everyone who was involved in making the Health Career Camp a success this year.

As followup, according to Hill, twenty of the students attending the workshop, will be monitored through high school for their academic progress and continued interest in the health-related field as a career.

The Creek Nation Communications Department is currently producing a videotape report on the Health Career Camp activities. This is the second annual health camp held by Creek Nation Community Health Program.

American Indian Birth Rates Increasing, Reports Say-

A study made public this week by the National Center for Health Statistics found that newborn Indians get a healthy start in the world, despite delayed parental care and a high incidence of premature births, federal officials say.

Asked to comment on the finding, Dr. Craif Vanderwagen of the Indian Health Service cited sophisticated community programs aimed at mothers, focusing in particular on nutrition and alcohol and tobacco use.

"I would say that the system in Indian communities permeated the value structure around nutrition and avoiding alcohol and smoking, that even though they may not come formally to clinical care until later, the kind of nutrition habits that bode a good outcome in pregancy are at work in the community," he said in a telephone interview.

Newborn deaths among Indians are fewer than for the general population, added Vanderwagen, director of the Division of Clinical and Prevention Services at the Indian Health Service.

The report by the Center for Health Statistics, a branch of the Department of Health and Human Services, found that although Indian mothers are more than twice likely as whites to begin prenatal care late in their pregnancy, the birth-weights of their offspring are close to those of whites.

And one common measure of the health of newborns shows Indian and Eskimo babies close to the score achieved by the whites, and well ahead of the average health of black babies, the study said.

Overall, late prenatal care and factors such as the general youth and high incidence of out-of-wedlock childbearing appear to be balanced by "very favorable" birth weights for Indian and Eskimo children, the report also says.

"Apparently, other factors that cannot be identified from birth certificate data play an important role in the birthweight for Indian mothers in high-risk for Indian mothers in high-risk categories," commented Selma M. Taffle, who compiled the statistical report.

Her report also found a sharp increase in Indian births in recent years, but warned that it may be more apparent than real.

Between 1980 and 1984, Indians and Eskimos had a 13 per cent increase in births, compared to a two per cent growth for the nation as a whole, she reported.

But, "some of this increase may be due to a greater frequency of individuals of mixed and non-Indian descent reporting their race as Indian."

Overall, births to Indians and Alaska Natives totaled 41,451 in 1984, the most recent year for which complete statistics are available. While that amounts to only about one per cent of all U.S. births, it is up sharply from a total of 25,864 in 1970 and 36,797 in 1980.

The statistical study, based on birth certificate reports, combines information for American Indians and Alaska Natives. The Alaska Natives category includes Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts living in Alaska.

While the study was nationwide, more than half of all Indian mothers reside in four states- Arizona, California, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

Janice Earnest, CN Hospital Quality Assurance and Infection Control Officer

Janice Earnest, R.N., was recently promoted to a position at Creek Nation Community Hospital permitting her to better meet the needs of patients and the hospital, announced Regina Smith, R.N., B.S.N, acting director of nursing.

As quality assurance coordinator and infection control officer, Earnest is responsible for monitoring the quality of care delivered as well as carefully monitoring the rate of infections for Creek Nation Community Hospital patients.

"Quality assurance is very important for our patients," Smith said. "It helps us determine whether the patient care achieved its goals." She went on to explain that quality assurance looks at the patient's care from the patient's perspective as well as from the hospital's, making sure all goals are met.

Also under the quality assurance position, Earnest will provide inservice education for nurses at Creek Nation Community Hospital. She is responsible for providing opportunities for staff nurses to broaden their skills and increase their education while working at the hospital.

"Although we've received educations, health care technology and practices are always changing making it important for nurses and other health care professionals to keep up with the latest techniques," Earnest said about her duties as inservice educator.

Most hospitals have infection control officers such as Earnest, who are responsible for the important task of making sure infections are kept to a minimum. "The work that I do in both roles ultimately benefits the patients, hospital, and even fellow employees by making the hospital safer and more effective," she commented. "Eventually I'd also like to set up a patient teaching program that will help our patients learn more about their illnesses and know how to treat and live with their illnesses." She went on to explain that the program would help a diabetic, for example, by teaching them how to make lifestyle changes necessary to live more comfortably with the disease.

Earnest's experience and education will be beneficial to her in the new position. She became a licensed practical nurse after graduating from the Oklahoma School of Technical Training at Okmulgee and later obtained an associate degree in nursing from Seminole Junior College and later obtained an associate degree in nursing from Seminole Junior College, qualifying her to become a registered nurse.

Familiar with Creek Nation Community Hospital, Earnest began working there in 1981. Later she worked at two other area hospitals before returning to Okemah in February on a full-time basis.

"I like this hospital---the people, closeness, caring, support and variety of patients," she related. "Good care is given at our hospital and I'm convinced that my new roles in quality assurance and infection control will further enhance that level of care."

CREEK STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AM-TECH'S PROGRAMS *are: (left to right) Gary Frazier, Dewar, Auto Mechanics; First Row-Jim Buckley, Dewar, Auto Mechanics,(Student of the Month and Perfect Attendance); Donald Berryhill, Beggs, Auto Mechanics; John Factor, Okmulgee, Auto Mechanics; Jim Hicks, Henryetta, Auto Mechanics; Bill Phillips, Muskogee, Air Conditioning and Heating Instructor; Richard Harley, Henryetta, Auto Mechanics; Tommy Holman, Henryetta, Auto Body; Jodie Dunn, Dewar, Auto Mechanics; Gilbert Conner, Okmulgee, Auto Body; Second Row-John Randall, Weleetka, Auto Mechanics; Leonard Berryhill, Okmulgee, Auto Mechanics; Edwin McCulley, Okmulgee, Auto Body; Roman Harjo, Henryetta, Auto Body, (Perfect Attendance); Elmo Morgan, Okmulgee, Auto Body; Walter Jones, Jr., Okmulgee, Auto Body; Arnold Taylor, Henryetta, Auto Mechanics; Soloman Johnson, Okmulgee, Auto Mechanics; Third Row-John Penn, Okmulgee, Auto Body; Melford Hobia, Weleetka, Auto Mechanics; Sam Carney, Muskogee, Stationary Engineer (Student of the Month); Rocky Lee, Okmulgee, Stationary Eng. & A/C; Ike Lee, Okmulgee, Stationary Eng. & A/C (Perfect Attendance); Billie Birdtail, Muskogee, AC/Heating; James Brown, Okmulgee, AC/Heating; Tiger Hobia, Wetumka, AC/Heating; Chitto Johnson, Okmulgee, Auto Mechanics. Not shown are; Maggie Smith (night student), Henryetta McCulley, Dan Henneha, Daniel Harjo, Johnny Leybas, Jack Monday, Dennis Morgan, Jim Fife, Eddie Bear, James Starr.*

Creek Students Learn Valuable Job Skills at Am-Tech

By Kathryn Bell

Among the 250 students enrolled in the American Technical Institute's Muskogee location, approximately 70 are American Indian. Approximately 45 of these are Creek, many of whom commute considerable distances to enroll in the six-month vocational training programs offered by Am-Tech.

The majority of these Creek students are enrolled in Am-Tech, through the assistance of the JTPA program at Creek Nation, which assists the students in getting PELL grants or guaranteed student loans to attend the school, which would normally cost each enrollee $5,000 per course. CN's JTPA program also provides a small living allowance for the student, as well as providing some transportation to and from the school. Am-Tech is one of several vocational training facilities where JTPA students are placed.

The JTPA Program at Creek Nation explained anyone wanting to go through the program and who is eligible to receive a PELL Grant or Guaranteed Student Loan, must complete their GED or have a high school diploma or take a pretest, before eligibility for Am-Tech through the JTPA can be determined.

The students, ranging in age from 18-50, can enroll in vocational courses such as air conditioning and heating, auto mechanics and auto body, welding, stationary engineering. The courses require completion of 900 hours in each course and classes are night or day, seven hours and day, five days a week.

To maximize the students opportunities in locating a good job upon course completion, Am-Tech provides job placement services - "Although the school doesn't guarantee a job upon completion, they do assist students in the job placement area by helping them to get letters of recommendation, develop a resume and give guidance on how to have a successful interview," said Anderson, adding that the Institute's job placement percentage was good - "particularly since the job market is so bad right now." Pete Cristenberry is the Institute's Job Placement person who works on behalf of the students with local and regional employers.

"These Creek students have an opportunity to meet some of their goals and have marketable job skills when they complete their course here," said Woody Anderson, a Creek who is the Admissions Officer and Recruiter for Am-Tech. He said 30 Creek students had been recruited for the Institute since January. Most of these, according to Anderson, excel in the courses - "Many of our Creeks have really accomplished alot since they have been here - there has only been one month that a Creek hasn't been named "Student of the Month" or has had perfect attendance." The awards are based on shop lab work, classtime, ability in the field, exam grades, shop safety, dependability, and cooperation and initiative.

Creek students who have won awards include; Student of the Month for February-Johnny Leybas, Jimmy Buckley, (Perfect Attendance); March Perfect Attendance-Jimmy Buckley, Jodie Dunn, Roman Harjo and John Penn; April Perfect Attendance-Jimmy Buckley, Jodie Dunn, James Starr, Ike Lee, and April Student of the Month, Jimmy Buckley; May Student of the Month James Starr and Sampson Carney, Perfect Attendance for May-Jimmy Buckley, Jodie Dunn and Roman Harjo.

One former student, and now instructor of the Institute's Air Conditioning and Heating course, Bill Phillips, Creek, said the courses he took at Am-Tech had paid off - "My training at Am-Tech has meant a great deal to me. I graduated in 1985 and became an instructor in 1986. I now have a better income and a more productive life." Phillips is from Eufaula.

The program has been so successful with recruitment of Indians that ex-offenders have gone through the program, according to Anderson, whose father, Chubby, an CN Job Developer with the JTPA program, has been instrumental in assisting the ex-offenders to go through the JTPA program and then to Am-Tech.

Emanuel Morgan, Manager, Employment and Training Administration at Creek Nation, said "By utilizing the vocational training programs at Am-Tech, Creek Nation's JTPA program is meeting many of its goals of providing job training for Creek people."

Three Creek men are enrolled as students at the Tulsa Am-Tech school; Charlie Barnett, Auto Mechanics, Ronald Watashe, Auto Mechanics and Rickey Hood, Auto Body.

Muscogee (Creek) National Council

Approved Minutes June 27, 1987, Regular Session

INVOCATION: Helen Chupco
CALL TO ORDER: Carney Roberts, Speaker
ROLL CALL: The roll call was taken as follows: A quorum was declared with twenty one members present, seven members absent. Those absent were: Bible, Cleghorn, Foster, Hardridge, Kamp and Stacy. The Speaker stated that any and all business transacted during this session would be valid; and all transations would be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.
READING OF THE MINUTES: The minutes were not read. The Speaker stated that they would appear on the next agenda of July 25, 1987.
ORDER OF BUSINESS: The old business was considered as follows:

6-1 A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Regarding the Nominations to the Boards and Authorities of the Nation. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Subject to the provisions of Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection, as in the manner provided by law, the following proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Shall Article VI, Section 2 (c) be amended to read as follows: The Principal Chief shall have the power to fill vacancies by granting commissions which shall expire at the beginning of the next National Council Meeting. (a) No person shall be granted a commission more than once for the same position; (b) Nominations not approved by a majority vote of the National Council shall be withdrawn by the Principal Chief. Nominations withdrawn shall be replaced by new nominations. **Section 102** The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitutional Amendments as set forth in Section 101 of this Ordinance shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE
NATIONAL COUNCIL REFERENDUM NO: #
THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:
Shall Article V, Section 2 (c) which reads:
The Principal Chief shall have the power to fill vacancies by granting commissions which shall expire at the beginning of the next Council Meeting.
Be amended to read as follows:
The Principal Chief shall have the power to fill vacancies by granting commissions which shall expire at the beginning of the next National Council Meeting.
(a) No person shall be granted a commission more than once for the same position: (b) Nominations not approved by a majority vote of the National Council shall be withdrawn by the Principal Chief. Nominations withdrawn shall be replaced by new nominations.

YES, for the Amendment
NO, Against the Amendment

The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Dunson to approve the Bill as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Eleven in Favor, Nine against and one abstention: Voting No were: Robert Buck, Clark, Roberts, Chupco, Larney, Hale, Miller and Johnson; Williams abstained. Motion didnot carry as it did not receive the required 2/3 majority vote.

6-2 A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Regarding the Number of Council Members to Over-ride a Veto. The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Constitutional Amendements upon request of the Principal Chief. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Subject to the provisions of Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection as in the manner provided by law, the following proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:
Shall Article VI, (A) Section (6) be amended to read as follows:
Every Bill which shall have passed the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, before it becomes an Ordinance, shall be presented to the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. If he approves, he shall sign it, but if not he shall return it with his objections to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsiderations, two-thirds (2/3) of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council Members present shall pass the Bill, it shall become an Ordinance. In such cases, the votes shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against shall be entered on the journal of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. If any Bill shall not be returned by the Principal Chief within ten (10) days, Sundays and Holidays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him the same shall be an Ordinance as if he had signed it. Section 102. The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitution Amendments as set forth in Section 101 of this Ordinance shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE
NATIONAL COUNCIL REFERENDUM NO. #
THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:
Shall the Constitutional Amendment amending Section VI, (A) Section (6) which reads:
Every Bill which shall have passed the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, before it becomes an Ordinance, shall be presented to the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. If he approves he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it with his objections to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsiderations, two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall pass the Bill, it shall become an Ordinance. In such cases, the votes shall be determined by yeas and nays and the names of the person voting for and against shall be entered on the journal of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, if any Bill shall not be returned by the Principal Chief within ten (10) days, Sundays and Holidays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him the same shall be considered an Ordinance as if he had signed it.
Be amended to read as follows:
Every Bill which shall have passed the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, before it becomes an Ordinance. shall be presented to the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. If he approves, he shall sign it, but if not, he shall return it with his objections to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council who shall enter the objections at large on their journal and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsiderations, two-thirds (2/3) of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council members present SHALL PASS BILL, it shall become an Ordinance. In such cases, the votes shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against shall be entered on the journal of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. If any Bill shall not be returned by the Principal Chief within ten (10) days, Sundays an Holidays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him the same shall be an Ordinance as if he had signed it.

YES, The Amendment
NO, Against the Amendment

The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Dunson to approve Bill 6-2 as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twelve in favor, nine against and no abstentions: Voting No were: Buck, Buck, Clark, Roberts, Chupco, Larney, Hale, Miller, and Johnson, voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Dunn, Dunson, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Wheeler, Thomas and Williams.
Motion carried Bill 6-2 was not approved as the Bill did not receive the required majority 2/3 vote.

6-3 A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Proposing Contitutional Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Regarding Article VII. The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, and comes out of that Committee with a Recommendation of a DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Subject to the provisions of Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection, as in the manner provided by law, the following proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation: Shall Article VII be amended to read as follows:
ARTICLE VII
Section One. The Muscogee Nation, as it geographically appeared in 1900, shall be divided into eight (8) districts corresponding namely with the counties of Creek, Hughes/Seminole, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee/Seminole, Okmulgee, Tulsa and Wagoner/Rogers/Mayes, in whole or portion thereof. Section two. The Judicial power of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be vested in one Supreme Court limited to matters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's jurisdiction and in such inferior courts as the National Council may from time to time ordain. Section three. The Supreme Court shall be composed of eight (8) Justices. (a) One Justice shall be elected from each districts of the Nation and shall serve a four (4) year term of office; (b) each Justice shall be a legal resident of his/her district; (c) no person shall be a Justice who has not attained the age of eighteen (18); (d) each Justice shall be a full citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Section four. The term of Office shall begin the first Monday in 1988. The oath of office shall be taken at the first scheduled meeting. Section Five. The Supreme Court shall with the approval of the National Council establish procedures to insure that the appellant receives due process of law and prompt and speedy relief. Section Six. The Supreme Court shall be presided over by a Chief Justice chosen from their own number and shall be in regular, quarterly-scheduled session, coinciding with that of the fiscal year. Section Seven: A majority of the members of the Supreme Court shall constitute a quorum to do business. A smaller number may compel the attendance of absent members in a manner and under such penalities to be prescribed by Ordinance. Section Eight: The members of the Supreme Court shall receive a compensation prescribed by ordinance for attendance at each session and/or meeting called by the Chief Justice and paid out of the Treasury of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Section Nine: No member of the Supreme Court shall, during their term of office, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or such office which shall have been created or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding an elective, appointive or any other office whether compensate or not under the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be a member of the Supreme Court. Section Ten: The decision of the Supreme Court shall be in writing and shall be final, however, any decision that is in violation of provisions of the Constitution and/or Ordinances of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be invalid. **Section 102** The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitutional Amendments as set forth in Section 101 of this Ordinance shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE
NATIONAL COUNCIL REFERENDUM NO. #
THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:
Shall Article VII which reads:
ARTICLE VII
Section One. The judicial power of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be vested in one Supreme Court limited to matters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's jurisdiction and in such inferior courts as the National Council may from time to time ordain. Section Two. The Supreme Court shall be composed of six (6) members appointed by the Principal Chief, subject to majority approval by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, and whose term shall be for six (6) years beginning July 1. Section Three. The Supreme Court shall, with the approval of the National Council establish procedures to insure that the appellant receives due process of law and prompt and speedy relief. Section Four. The Supreme Court shal be presided over by a Supreme Court Justice chosen from their own number and shall be in regular, quarterly-scheduled session, coinciding with that of the fiscal year. Section Five. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be in writing and shall be final. Be amended to read as follows:
ARTICLE VII
Section One. The Muscogee Nation, as it geographically appeared in 1900, shall be divided into eight (8) districts corresponding namely with the counties of Creek, Hughes/Seminole, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee/Seminole, Tulsa, Okmulgee and Wagoner/Rogers/Mayes in whole or portion thereof. Section Two. The judicial power of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be vested in one Supreme Court limited to matters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's jurisdiction and in such inferior courts as the National Council may from time to time ordain. Section Three. The Supreme Court shall be composed of eight (8) Justices. (a) One Justice shall be elected from each district of the Nation and shall serve a four (4) year term of office. (b) Each Justice shall be a legal resident of his/her district. (c) No person shall be a Justice who has not attained the age of eighteen (18). (d) Each Justice shall be a full citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Section Four. The term of Office shall begin the first Monday in 1988. The oath of office shall be taken at the first scheduled meeting. Section five. The Supreme Court shall, with the approval of the National Council establish procedures to insure that the appellant receives due process of law and prompt and speedy relief. Section Six. The Supreme Court shall be presided over by a Chief Justice chosen from their own number and shall be in regular, quarterly-scheduled session, coinciding with that of the fiscal year. Section Seven. A majority of the members of the Supreme Court shall constitute a quorum to do business. A smaller number may compel the attendance of absent members in a manner and under such penalities to be prescribed by ordinance. Section

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Eight. The members of the Supreme Court shall receive a compensation prescribed by Ordinance for attendance at each session and/or meeting called by the Chief Justice and paid out of the Treasury of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Section Nine. No member of the Supreme Court shall, during their term of office be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the Muscogee (Creek(Nation or such office which shall have been created or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and person holding any elected, appointed, or any other office whether compensated or not under the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be a member of the Supreme Court. Section Ten. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be in writing and shall be final, however, any decision that is in violation of provisions of the Constitution and/or Ordinances of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be invalid.

Yes, for the Amendment
No, against the Amendment

The Bill having been read, was considered as follows: A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Dunson to approve BILL 6-3 as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded, discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken as follows: Ten in favor, eleven against, no abstentions. Those voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Childers, Fox, Dunn, Dunson, McIntosh, Primeaux and Thomas; those voting no were: Buck, Buck, Clark, Roberts, Chupco, Larney, Hale, Little, Miller, Williams and Johnson. MOTION DID NOT CARRY. BILL 6-3 did not carry as it did not receive the requried 2/3 majority vote.

6-4 A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Regarding the number of votes for passage of a Constitutional Amendment. The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, and comes out of the Committee with a recommendation of a DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101 Subject to the provisions of Article IX of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection, as in the manner provided by law, the following proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Shall Article XI Section (I) (a) (I) be amended to read as follows: Passage of an amendment ordinance before the Muscogee (Creek) National Council members present and thereafter. **Section 102**. The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitutional Amendments as set forth in Section 101 of this Ordinance shall be in the following form:

BALLOTT TITLE
NATIONAL COUNCIL REFERENDUM NO.#
THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:
Shall Article XI, Section (I) (a) (I) which reads:
Passage of an amendment ordinance before the Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall require two-thirds (2/3) afirmative vote and thereafter. Be amended to read as follows: Passage of an amendment Ordinance before the Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall require two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the National Council members present and thereafter.

Yes, for the Amendment
No, against the Amendment

The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Dunson to approve the Bill as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Thirteen in favor, eight against, no abstentions: Voting yes were: Barnett, Bear, Dunn, Dunson, Little, McIntosh, Childers, Larney, Fox, Primeaux, Thomas, Wheeler and Williams; voting no were: Buck, Buck, Clark, Chupco, Roberts, Hale, Miller and Johnson. Motion did not carry as the Bill did not receive the required 2/3 vote.

6-H A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation regarding the number of representatives to the National Council. The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments coming out of the Committee with a recommendation of DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Subject to the provisions of Article XI of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief shall refer to the voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for their approval or rejection as the manner provided by law, the following proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation:
Shall Article VI Section Two be amendéd to read as follows: All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with three representatives from the Tulsa, Okmulgee, Creek and McIntosh Districts; two from Okfuskee, Hughes/Seminole, Muskogee and Wagoner/Rogers/Mayes Districts. **Section 102** The Ballot Title for the Proposed Constitutional Amendment as set forth in Section 101 of this Ordinance shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE
NATIONAL COUNCIL REFERENDUM NO. #
THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:
Shall the Constitutional Amendment amending Article VI, Section Two which reads: All All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with one (1) Representative from each district and one (1) additional representative for each 1,000 district citizens.
Be amended to read as follows:
All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council which shall consist of one (1) House with three representatives from the Tulsa, Okmulgee, Creek, and McIntosh Districts; two from Okfuskee, Hughes/Seminole, Muskogee and Wagoner/Rogers/Mayes Districts.

Yes for the Amendment
No, against the Amendment

The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Dunson to approve the Bill 6-4 as read. Discussion was entertained and held. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Chupco to amend Section 101 of the Bill 6-4 to read "All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with one (1) representative from each district and one (1) additional representative for each 2,500 district citizens. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote taken with the results being: Eleven 'n favor, ten against, no abstentions. Voting yes were: Barnett, Buck, Buck, Clark, Roberts, Chupco, Larney, Hale, Miller, Williams and Johnson; voting no were: Bear, Childers, Fox, Dunson, Dunn, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Thomas, and Wheeler. Motion carried. The vote resulted in a tie ten in favor, ten against, with the speaker voting and breaking the tie. The amendment to the proposed Bill (5H) was approved. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded for the approval of Bill 6-4 as read and amended, a roll call vote was taken with the results being ten in favor, eleven against, no abstentions. Voting yes were: Buck, Buck, Clark, Roberts, Hale, Larney, Miller and Williams. Voting no were: Bear, Barnett, Childers, Dunn, Dunson, Fox, Little, McIntosh, Primeaux, Thomas and Wheeler. Motion did not carry the Bill 6-4 did not receive the required two-thirds majority vote, the amendment was not approved and shall be recorded as such.

NEW BUSINESS:
6-A A Bill Appropriating Tax Revenues to Supplement the Tribal Burial Program. The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Community Services with that Committee recommending a Do Pass. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Findings: The National Council finds that: A. The Tribal Budget for Fy 1987 provides a burial program which pays $1,000 for funerals for tribal citizens and $100 for food orders. B. As of June 10, 1987, 101 grants have been provided from the original allocation of 113 grants, which indicate all funds will be expended by July 1, 1987. C. By ordinance, the tribal government has created tax revenues to be expended for services with approximately $212,000 currently available for appropriations. D. It is necessary to supplement the Tribal Burial Program from tax revenues. **Section 102** The National Council hereby appropriates tax revenues to supplement the Tribal Burial Program as follows: Funeral Grants (33 @ $1,000)......$33,0000. The Bill 6-A having been read, the Chair entertained a motion to approve the Bill as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty two in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion carried, Bill 6-A was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

6-B A Bill of the Muscogee Nation Appropriating Bingo Revenue to Maintain Health Services at Tribal Clinics. The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Community Services who reviewed the Bill and recommended that it be considered by the National Council Acting as a Committee of the Whole. This item was placed on the agenda with a recommendation of DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. FINDINGS. The National Council finds: A. Indian Health Service funding has not increased since contracting under P.L. 93-638. B. Since contracting, due to improved services and increased need,services at the clinics have increased over 61%. C. Additional Funding is required during FY 87 to maintain a current level of service. D. Bingo revenues are sufficient to provide the needed funding. E. Third-Party mechanism are currently implemented to provide extra funding to offset additional financial requirements during FY-1988. **Section 102** The National Council hereby appropriates Bingo revenues as follows:

	EUFAULA	SAPULPA	OKEMAH	OKMULGEE
Salaries	$ 21,135	-0-	28,200	1,729
Fringe	6,446	-0-	8,601	501
Travel	-0-	2,500	-0-	-0-
Supplies	5,000	6,500	-0-	1,400
Ada Supply	31,519	49,132	-0-	3,850
Maintenance & Utilities	3,000	-0-	1,000	-0-
Space Rental	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
Insurance	1,000	-0-	30,000	-0-
Speciality Care (Dental)	10,000	-0-	-0-	11,956
Speciality Care (Medical)	23,210	95,530	3,000	-0-
Telephone	4,500	2,500	5,000	-0-
Reproduction	700	1,500	-0-	-0-
Public Health Nursing	-0-	-0-	1,000	-0-
	$106,510	157,662	76,801	19,436

Total Funding $330,409

Section 103 Budget revisions may be implemented to meet special needs within the total appropriations. The Bill 6-B having been read, the Chair entertained a motion A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Chupco to approve the BILL 6-B as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty one in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion did carry. Bill 6-B was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

6-C A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing the Grant of Economic Development funds to the Coweta Indian Community. This Bill was assigned to the Committee on Tribal Affairs with that Committee making a recommendation of a DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Findings The National Council finds that: A. The Coweta Indian Community organization is a chartered organized tribal entity of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. B. The Coweta Indian Community desires to enter into a business enterprise for the purpose of employment to community members and income for the community. C. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has in NCA 86-49, Section (C) appropriated $228,750 for the purpose of economic development for "Tribal and community project and enterprises which provide income and employment for the tribal entity, as approved by ordinance." Section 102 The cost for making the building suitable to the business enterprise including stock will be $12,500. The budget is as follows:

A. Building Modification		$ 4,000.00
B. Insurance and Bonding		750.00
C. Operating Capital		9,750.00
1. License	25.00	
2. Cigarettes (Including Freight)	7,600.00	
3. Smokeless Tobacco	1,025.00	
4. Cash Register	350.00	
5. Advertising (Including Signs)	250.00	
6. Operating Cash	500.00	
Total Costs		$14,500.00

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Section 103 This Economic Development Project which will benefit both the Coweta Indian Community and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, shall be implemented within fifteen days after this Bill becomes an Ordinance. The Bill having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Primeaux and seconded by Clark to approve the Bill as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion did carry Bill 6-C was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

6-D A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing a Feasibility Study of an Economical Development Project. The Bill was introduced by request of the Principal Chief and assigned to the Committee on Tribal Affairs by the Speaker. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Findings. The National Council finds that: A. The Principal Chief and/or his designate is authorized to pursue economic development project. B. Feasibility study shall be of a manufacturing facility located within the original boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. C. The facility and its operations would be wholly owned by Muscogee (Creek) Nation, supervised by a general manager under the direction of present tribal Interim Management Executive Committee. D. Investigate and identify source of funding available in order to procure project. **Section 102. The National Council hereby authorizes and appropriates five thousand dollars ($5,000) from the Economic Development Funds Account to be utilized for feasibility study and/or business appraisal, as the Principal Chief deems appropriate. Section 103** any agreement pursuant to Section 101 of this Ordinance shall be subject to ratification and approval of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Miller to approve the Bill 6-D as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty one in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion Carried. Bill 6-D was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

6-E A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Consenting to the Placement of Lands in Trust for John Redeagle. The Bill was assigned to the National Council Acting as a Committee of the Whole, with the Committee giving a recommendation of a DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. Findings, The National Council finds that: A. John Redeagle, a member of the Quapaw Tribe, has inherited an undivided 1/9 interest in the following property: 1. 1/9th interest in minerals only in and under the North 75 acres of the W/2 NW/4 of Section 8T13N-R18E, which was purchased on restricted form deed. 2. 1/9th interest in surface and minerals in the NE/4 SE/4 and the SE/4 of Section 10-T17N-R7E and the N/2 SW/4 of Section 11-T17N-R7E. B. The property was inherited from his stepmother, Ms. Annie Wilson now Redeagle. C. The BIA has indicated that Tribal consent is required for the request action. **Section 102** The Muscogee (Creek) Nation hereby consents to the placement of the land in trust as required. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion to approve the Bill as read. A motion was made by Chupco and seconded by Clark to approve the Bill as read. Discussion was entertained and held. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty one in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion Carried the Bill was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

6-F A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Establishing a Community/Tribal Economic Development Project in Okemah, Oklahoma. The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Tribal Affairs, and introduced by the Prinicpal Chief. The Committee made a recommendation of a DO PASS. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101: The National Council finds that: A. The unemployment rate in Okfuskee and surrounding districts has created a severe hardship on tribal citizens. B. An economic development project in Okemah, Oklahoma, would directly and indirectly benefit tribal members in the area. C. An opportunity exists for establishing an economic development project which can include: 1. A sporting equipment repair an related athletic sales and supply service. 2. Other tribal community enterprises including smoke shops, etc., **Section 102** The National Council hereby authorizes the establishment of an economic development project in Okemah, Oklahoma and programs and appropriates funding as follows: A. Property and Facilities (Tribal Budget - Capital Acquisition) $120,000. B. Equipment, Supplies & Startup Operations (Tribal Income-7151 Funds) $180,000. Total $300,000. **Section 103** The Principal Chief is authorized to request early buy-out of funds from the BIA as needed to implement this Ordinance. The Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Buck and seconded by Johnson to approve the Bill 6-F as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Fifteen in favor, Five against and one abstention. Voting Yes were: Barnett, Bear, Buck, Buck, Chupco, Clark, Fox, Hale, Larney, Johnson, McIntosh, Miller, Thomas, Wheeler and Williams. Voting No were: Childers, Dunn, Dunson, Little, Primeaux. Wilson abstained. Motion Carried 6-F was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

6-G A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Providing Authorization for Tribal Contracts to Provide services and programs for FY 1988. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101 Findings The National Council finds that: A. The Muscogee Nation has satisfactorily performed its contractual obligations throughout the past several fiscal years. B. Federal, state and other contracts are currently necessary for the tribal delivery of needed services to Indians within the Muscogee Nation. C. Federal, State and other contracts should be authorized for Fiscal Year 1988. **Section 102. DECLARATION OF POLICY** It is the policy of the Muscogee Nation to utilize federal, state and other contracts for the tribal delivery of necessary services to Indians within the Muscogee Nation. Section 151 Contracts described by this Ordinance are hereby authorized for Fiscal Year 1988. Section 152. The authority of the Muscogee Nation to enter into contracts for the 1988 Fiscal year is hereby delegated to the Principal Chief under the terms of Ordinance. Section 153. The Muscogee Nation shall enter into contracts and grants with federal, state and other entities including but not limited to: A. THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Department of Interior: Agriculture Program, Aid to Tribal Government Tribal Courts, Credit and Finance, Minerals and Mining, Natural Resources, Real Estate Apraisal Program, Real Estate Services/ Other Rights Protection, Water Resources, Housing Improvement Program, Other Employment Services, Social Services, Community Services General, Higher Education, Adult Education, Adult Vocational Training, JOM Early Childhood, Eufaula Dormitory ***Department of Health and Human Services:*** Head Start Training and Technical Assistance, Head Start Handicap, Head Start P.A. 17 Full Year, Part Day, Centerbased, Head Start Cost of Living and Program Improvement ***Department of Agriculture:*** Commodity Distribution Program, Women Infant Care Program ***4. Department of labor 5. Reserved.***

Section 201. In performance of the above described contracts, the following guidelines are hereby imposed upon the Principal Chief: A. The scope of each contract shall be the maximum amount of services which is contractible (or, for area-wide or multi-tribal programs, the tribal share as negotiated) and, in the judgement of the Principal Chief, which the Muscogee Nation is capable of fulfilling. B. A negotiating team is hereby created to consist of the Principal Chief, Executive Director, and the Director of the Division proposed to implement the contract; and the negotiating team is hereby vested with the authority to negotiate any contract and amendments thereto. Any disagreement among the negotiating team shall be settled by binding majority vote. C. The Principal Chief of the Muscogee Nation is hereby authorized to implement each contract and any amendments thereto, with advice and consent of the National Council. D. The authorities granted by this Ordinance shall expire on September 30, 1988 Provided that: 1. Contract extensions approved by both parties to contract shall continue under the authorities of this Ordinance. 2. Contracts which do not exceed the time limit in Section 201 (I) of this Ordinance shall continue under the authorities of this Ordinance.E.Review of contract proposals contained in Section 153 of this Ordinance has been completed by the National Council. 1. Notification of Contract/Grant Awards F. New Proposals shall be reviewed by the National Council, if approved, added to Section 153 of this Ordinance by amendment. G. Upon amendment of Section 153 of this Ordinance, the Secretary shall be required to compile an amended version of this Ordinance, and the Speaker and the Principal Chief shall be required to execute original signatures to the amended versions of this Ordinance. H. All contracts shall commence on or after October 1, 1987. I. All contracts shall be for a period of not more than three years. **Section 202** Funds received by the Muscogee Nation under any contract authorized by the Ordinance are hereby appropriated for the sole purpose of the contracts and Principal Chief is instructed to expend those funds in accordance with applicable contract and other requirements. **Section 203** Budget modifications may be proposed by the Principal Chief to the Agency and if approved may be implemented. A. Approved Budget Modifications shall be provided to the National Council. **Section 204** The Principal Chief is directed to enter into lease of tribal facilities on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to tribal programs under contract and to federal programs needing office, program or storage space when such federal programs serve Indian residents or citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. All such funds received are hereby appropriated to the Tribal Real Property and Facilities Program. **Section 205** No request to retrocede any contract under this Ordinance is authorized to be made without an Ordinance of the Muscogee Nation. **Section 206** The Principal Chief is authorized to obtain such residual or carry over funds as may be available from unexpended FY 87 funds, to be applied to a contract for the same general purpose. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Williams to approve the Bill as read. The Chair reported that each individual proposal included in the contracting Bill had been assigned to a Committee with each making a recommendation to the full Council. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion carried. Bill 6-G was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

6-H A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Approving the Tribal Action Plan for the Prevention and Treatment of Alcohol and Substance Abuse. This Bill was assigned to the Committee on Community Services *and come out of that Committee with a* recommendation of DO PASS. Section 101 Findings The National Council finds that: A. P.L. 99-750 provides funding for tribal programs in accordance with a Tribal Action Plan. B. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation operates a comprehensive health care system and an educational system which can provide prevention and treatment for alcohol and substance abuse.**SECTION 103.**The Principal Chief is authorized to revise the plan to meet the changing needs to the population and levels of funding.The Bill having been read the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Buck and seconded by Miller to approve the Bill as read. Discussion was entertained and held. A roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion carried, Bill 6-H was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

6-I A Bill of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Authorizing Submission of Proposal for Family Violence Prevention and Services Act. The Bill was assigned to the Committee on Community Services, coming out of that Committee with a Recommendation of DO PASS. Section 101. FINDINGS It is determined by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to be in the best interests of Creek people to assist in providing services towards the prevention of family violence. **Section 102** The Muscogee (Creek) National Council authorizes the Principal Chief to establish a program to: 1. Provide immediate shelter and related assistance for victims of family violence and their dependents; and 2. To carry out coordination, research, training, technical assistance and evaluation activities. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Johnson to approve the Bill as read. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: twenty in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion carried Bill 6-I was approved as read and will be recorded as such.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

The Speaker advised that there were two Bills, 6-J and 6-K on the agenda under Items for Consideration and entertained a motion to have these items placed on the agenda for legislative action during this session. A motion was made by Wheeler and seconded by Childers to vote on each Bill separately for placement on the agenda. Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Nineteen in favor, one against, no abstentions. Voting against was Hale.Motion carried each bill would be considered separately for placement on the agenda. The Chair entertained a motion to place Bill 6-J on the Agenda for consideration. A motion was made by Williams and seconded by Larney to place a **A Bill 6-J An Amendment to NCA 87-25 to include the Possible Renovation of Oakdale as a Veterans Center on the Agenda for consideration.** Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion carried Bill 6-J will be placed on the agenda for consideration during this session. The Bill was assigned to the Committee as a whole for consideration and was read and considered as follows: **Section 101** Findings: That: A. NCA 87-25 programmed funds for the "construction of a building for use as a veterans center. B. The Muscogee Chapter of the organization has expressed an interest in possible renovation for the existing facility. **Section 102.** In order to allow options other than the construction of a new facility, NCA 87-25 is hereby amended at Section 102 as follows: Section 102 The National Council hereby appropriates $100,000 from Bingo Revenue Funds for the start-up costs and expenses for the construction and/or renovation of a building, supplies and equipment for the veteran's center." The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion to approve Bill 6J as read. A motion was made by Williams and seconded by Larney to approve Bill 6J as read. Discussion was entertained a held. A motion to amend Bill 6-J at Section 102 by changing the dollar figure of $100,000 to $75,000.

(Minutes Continued Next Page)

Alabama Poarch Band Creeks Visit Tallahassee Ground for Green Corn

A TRADITIONAL RIBBON DANCE IS HELD AT TALLAHASSEE CEREMONIAL GROUND *near Raiford as the Ground celebrates their annual Green Corn Ceremony. Visiting that Ground for the first time were members of the Poarch Band Creeks from Atmore, Alabama, whose women joined in with the regular members for the dance. -Photo by Gary Robinson*

By Kathryn Bell

On the eve of the Green Corn Dance, the sounds of turtle shell leg rattles can be heard clearly on the midsummer night as Creek women, colorful ribbons streaming from their clothing, perform the Ribbon Dance. The sounds of the shellshakers keep rhythm to the songs of the men beneath the arbors at the remote Tallahassee Stomp Ground near Raiford. The sights and sounds are unique to the Creek traditional ceremonial grounds at which an annual Green Corn Dance is held every year to highlight their summer ceremonial season.

This year's Green Corn dance was particularly unique to the visiting delegation of Poarch Band Creeks from Atmore, Alabama, who were invited by Sam Proctor, Oklahoma Creek and Tallahassee Ground Chief's speaker. The Green Corn dance is a part of traditional Creek culture that the Poarch Band Creeks have only read about and, more recently, been taught about, by Proctor, who has been living in Atmore and teaching this small group, whose ancestors remained in Alabama after the Removal of the majority of Creeks across the Trail of Tears, into Indian Territory. Proctor has patiently taught them the dances and songs of their people, and as they are still practised today in Creek ceremonial life. "We are here to fellowship and to learn about the Oklahoma Creek ways, and hopefully, strengthen our culture and ties with these Creeks," said Jack Allen McGhee, a member of the Poarch Band Creek governing council and leader of the delegation of eighteen who came out with Proctor for the week of Green Corn. McGhee said the Poarch Band Creeks are, with Proctor's encouragement and instruction, trying to revive their culture with hopes to establish a ceremonial ground at Atmore.

Proctor, well-known in Oklahoma and other states for his Creek stompdancing troup who do exhibitions of the dancing, has made an annual trek to Atmore for the last six years at Thanksgiving to fellowship with them and teach them of the traditional Creek ways.

According to McGhee and Larry Haikey, an Oklahoma Creek currently living in Pawhuska, but who has worked with the Poarch Band Creeks, the tribal government at Atmore hires approximately 180 tribal employees and owns business enterprises consisting of a Bingo operation and a motel and restaurant. The Poarch Band Creeks have only been recognized as a tribe by the federal government a short time and they have a tribal enrollment of 1,500 with the majority living in the Atmore area. The tribe is governed by a nine member council with a tribal chairman (currently Eddie Tauilles, who supports the cultural revival among his band) and the council members are elected at large for three years.

Back at Proctor's camp, after the Ribbon Dance, during a traditional Creek meal, which is synonymous with fellowship, the Poarch Band members and Proctor discussed the evenings events - which would be followed by stompdancing until midnight; McGhee, caught up in the timeless reality of a way of being that had changed very little for his Oklahoma brothers, said " This means so much to me and to the group to be able to come out here for their Green Corn - circumstances of our ancestors forced us to be where we are now, remaining behind in Alabama and separated from the larger body of our people. We felt there was such a need for us to know the cultural ways of our people and Sam Proctor has taught us - language and the whole concept of Creek dances... but it is one thing to be taught and read about it and another to see it first hand and to be able to participate in it." Proctor, serious and proud of their participation at his ground, added, "They have done really good tonight - it is the highlight of my teaching them, and especially since they really starting learning only in February." Proctor expressed his appreciation, on behalf of his ground, to the Atmore group for coming to the Tallahassee Ground - to show them the fruits of his labor with the Atmore Creeks.

Also present for the Green Corn dance at Tallahassee, were a group of Mississippi Choctaws (Philadelphia) who were invited guests of the ground and Thomas Yahola, a ground member. Yahola explained this was one of many yearly trips of this delegation of Mississippi Choctaw to Tallahassee to participate in the Green Corn. He said they hoped, as did the Poarch Band Creeks, to establish their own ceremonial grounds in Philadelphia, Mississippi.

During the summer ceremonials, stickball games will be held at the meetings of the Ground. Soup Drink will be observed in the Spring and again in October. One week before Green Corn, a boundary for the ceremonial ground will be established, with these preparations done by fasting and reverence to the ground in preparation for the Green Corn.

The Friday evening of the Green Corn, the women's ribbon dance is held, followed by a meal shared by the members of the ground, and invited guests at the different camps. Stompdancing then continues until midnight. The next morning, the ceremonial fire in the square is rekindled using the four logs pointed in the four cardinal directions. Medicine is prepared and taken by ground members.

During the course of the day the men will dance the Feather Dance (using long river-cane poles with white crane's feathers attached to them). At the end of the day, the men finish a 24-hour fast and an evening meal is served, with stompdancing all night.

On Sunday afternoon, a game of stickball is played and the members prepare to break camp.

Muscogee National Council Minutes Continued . . .

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Nineteen in Favor, One Abstention, None Against, Abstaining: Harley Little.

MOTION CARRIED. The Amendment was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded for the approval of BILL 6-J a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Eighteen in Favor, One Against, No Abstentions: Roy Bear

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 6-J was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

THE CHAIR ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO PLACE BILL 6-K ON THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION DURING THIS SESSION.

A motion was made by Wheeler and seconded by Bear not to consider this BILL today.

Discussion was entertained and held.

Mr. Wheeler was asked why he did not wish to have this BILL considered and he reported that due to the lack of communication between the Kellyville and Sapulpa Community and the Principal Chiefs office on how the building is to be used and that he wished to put this off until and understanding could be made between all three.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Nine Favor, Ten Against, No Abstentions. Those against being: Bear, Buck, Buck, Clark, Fox, Hale, Johnson, McIntosh, Miller, Williams. MOTION DID NOT CARRY.

A motion was made by Buck and seconded by Clark to place this BILL (6-K) on the agenda for consideration during this session.

Discussion was entertained and held.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Nine in Favor, Eleven Against. No Abstentions. Those against being: Bear, Childers, Dunn, Dunson, Johnson, Little, Thomas, Wheeler, Clark,Larney and Wilson. The Bill was placed on the Agenda for consideration during this session; with legislation action being taken as follows:

A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Buck to approve the BILL as read.

Upon a motion having been duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twelve in Favor, Three Against, Four Abstention: Those Against being: Dunson, Fox, Thomas. Those abstaining were: Childers, Chupco, Dunn, and Larney.

MOTION CARRIED. BILL 6-K was approved as read and shall be recorded as such.

OTHER BUSINESS. None

ANNOUNCEMENT, REPORTS, ETC.

Planning Session shall be Wednesday, July 15, 1987, 6:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT. By unanimous decision.

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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 8 August 1987 Issue 16 Pages

CORRECTION NOTICE

Candidacy Filing Period

Information supplied to the Muscogee Nation News concerning the filing period for the October 24, 1987 Creek Nation Election and published in the MNN July issue was incorrect.

The correct filing period, according to the Creek Election Code is September 21-22-23. *The code reads as follows:* ***NCA 81-82, Artivle V, Section 508. FILING PERIOD*** *Declaration of candidacy provided herein must be filed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board no earlier than 9:00 a.m. on the third (3rd) Monday in September and no later than 5:00 p.m. on the next succeeding Wednesday. Said Declarations of Candidacy may be transmitted by United States mail, but in no event shall the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board accept said Declarations after the time prescribed by law.*

CREEK ELECTION CODE
NCA 81-82
Article V, Sections 501-510

Section 501. Declarations of Candidacy Required. *A person may become a candidate for office and have his name appear on a ballot only after he files a Declaration of Candidacy with the Secretary of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board.*

Section 502. Candidates Filing With The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board. *Candidates for Chief, Second Chief, and National Council Representatives shall file Declarations of Candidacy with the secretary of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board.*

Section 503. Candidate Must Be Registered. *In order to file as a candidate for nomination, a person must be a registered voter with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board.*

Section 504. Candidate May File For Only One Office. *Candidates may file for no more than one office at any election.*

Section 505. Identical Names Prohibited. *No person may become a candidate for any office whose name is identical to the name of the incumbent or of any filed candidate for such office, or similar thereto, where it appears that the identity or similarity of names is used for the purpose of confusing voters.*

Section 506. Adopting Name of Incumbent Prohibited. *No person may become a candidate for any office who adopts or has adopted a name identical or similar to that of the incumbent of such office, or of any candidate who has previously made a public announcment of his candidacy for such office.*

Section 507. Adopting Name of Person, Tribal, State or National Reputation Prohibited. *No person may become a candidate for any office who adopts or as adopted the name of any person of tribal, state or national reputation, living or dead.*

Section 508. Filing Period. (Printed above)

Section 509. Declaration of Candidacy Forms. *Forms to be used for*

(ELECTION CODE continued page 2)

THE CREEK NATION ELECTION BOARD, *is shown preparing for the upcoming tribal election, to be held October 24. Checking voters registrations and election guidelines are; left to right, Martha Chalakee, Loretta Harjo, Juliene Stone and Tracy Lowe.*

Creek Election Set Oct. 24

By Helen Chalakee

The CN Election Board has scheduled Saturday, October 24, 1987 for the Creek Primary Election to elect a Principal Chief, Second Chief and 21 National Council Chief and 21 Representatives to the Muscogee Nation Council.

Vacant Positions Announced

According to the enrollment population count certified by the Creek Nation Citizenship Board on August 1 of this year, as prescribed by ordinance, the Creek Nation Election Board has declared the following apportionment for Council Representatives for each of the following districts: Tulsa- four (4) seats; Creek- three (3) seats; Okmulgee- four (4) seats; Hughes- two (2) seats; McIntosh- three (3) seats; Okfuskee- three (3) seats; Muskogee- one (1) seat; and Roger-Mayes-Wagoner one (1) seat.

CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to be a candidate for Principal Chief or Second Chief, one must be thirty (30) years or older, must be a full citizen (1/4 or more by blood), must have resided within the Creek Nation boundaries for a year prior to filing; and, must be registered with the CN Election Board.

Council Representatives must be at least 18 year old, be a full citizen and be registered with the CN Election Board. They also must reside within the district for which they are filing.

CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD

Candidate filing period is September 21, 22 and 23 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each of those days. Declarations of candidacy must be filed with the CN Election Board before a name will be printed on the ballots.

FILING FEE

The filing fees are: Principal Chief, $400; Second Chief, $250; and Representatives, $100. All fees must be paid in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Creek Nation Election Board.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Absentee voter registration will close September 29. Resident absentee ballots should be requested in writing to the CN Election Board no later than September 29, according to Juliene Stone, Election Board Secretery.

Regular registration will close October 13. All registration will re-open October 28.

Ms. Stone said the yellow voter cards are in the process of being mailed and you must have a card to vote at the precinct. If a correction needs to be made to your yellow voter card, please contact the CN Election Board immediately because the card tells you where to vote and it will also be used for voter identification.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

All candidates who have legally filed for candidacy in the Creek election will have the opportunity to state their platform in the Muscogee Nation News. The MNN is allowing 500 words or less to each candidate along with a recent photo to be published in the September issue.

If you need a photo taken, please contact the MNN office located in the Mound Building at the Tribal Complex and make an appointment. All candidate information is due in the MNN office no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, September 25. If sent by U.S. Mail, it must have reached the office by this date. Muscogee Nation News, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447. Phone 918/756-8700 extension 327.

-NOTICE-

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Ordinance in its entirety is published in this issue on pages 14-15.

Gospel Singing Set at Birdcreek

A Gospel Singing will be held September 26 at Birdcreek Indian Baptist Church, three miles west and one mile south of Sasakwa on HWY 56. The Singing will start at 7:30 p.m. and go until ? Robert Jones will be the MC and a concession stand will be in operation. Bring your lawn chairs.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $12.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements. Address P.O Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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***HEAD LITTLE BOY DANCER C.J. HARJO** is getting ready for the Okmulgee Pow Wow Sept. 19. He is the son of Jim and Nettie Harjo, Okmulgee and the grandson of the late George Cosar and Stella Cosar, Okmulgee and Jim B. Harjo, Dustin.*

Okmulgee Indian Ed Pow Wow Sept. 19

The Okmulgee Indian Education Parent Committee has scheduled its first benefit Pow Wow to be held in Okmulgee. The Pow Wow, which will host some of the best known dancers and singers from across the state will be held September 19 at the Creek Nation Sports Omniplex, across the highway from the Creek Complex one mile north of the city.

Head Singer will be Willy Littlecreek, Shawnee; Head Man Dancer will be Robbie Anquoe, Kiowa-Sioux; Head Lady Dancer will be Debbie Chanate, Kiowa-Cherokee; Head Little Boy Dancer will be C.J. Harjo, Creek; and Head Little Girl Dancer will be Shawna Tyndall, Creek-Omaha.

Tony Arkeketa, Ponca-Otoe, will be Master of Ceremonies. Jackie Jackson, Creek, will be Arena Director; the Tia Piah Society Gourd Clan, Host and Host Drum will be the Red Land Singers.

Gourd Dancing will start the Pow Wow at 2:00 p.m. Proceeds from this event will go to help sponsor cultural activities for school students during this year.

-Notice-

The Creek Nation Head Start announces its participation in the Child Care Food Program. All children in attendance will be offered the same meals at no separate charge and with no physical segregation of, or other discrimination against any child because of race, age or handicap. The Child Care Food Program is an equal opportunity Program. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap, write immediately to the State Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs Division, 2500 Lincoln Programs Division, 2500 Lincoln Blvd., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105-4599 or the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington D.C. 20250. This statement applies to the centers listed below: Yeager, Eufaula, Okmulgee and Sapulpa.

12th Annual Indian National Finals Rodeo

Coors presents the 12th Annual Indian National Finals Rodeo which will take place Thursday, November 19 thru Saturday, November 22, 1987 at the Tingley Coliseum in Albuquerque, New Mexico announced Clem McSpadden, General Manager of the Indian National Finals Rodeo.

Indian cowboys from throughout the United States and Canada earn the right to compete for championship titles and the biggest purse in Indian rodeo by finishing in the top two positions of each event in the nine major Indian regional rodeo associations throughout North America.

Events for which contestants will be competing are Bull Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bareback Riding, Barrel Racing, Calf Roping, Steer Wrestling and Team Roping.

The stock for this year's finals promises to be the meanest bulls and badists bucking horses ever brought in for the finals.

In addition to the rodeo, other activities such as the Miss Indian Rodeo North American pageant, a Pow Wow and a large arts and crafts trade fair will complement the production.

For more information contact: Rodeo-Clem McSpadden, 918/789-3237; Trade Show- Jo Arrington, 918/224-1806 or (night) 918/447-6511; Pageant-Susan Arkeketa, 303/447-8760; Pow Wow to be announced; Tickets- Worldwide Ticketcenters 505/881-7770.

LETTERS . . .

DEAR CHIEF COX:

I would like to express my sincere appreciation for having the opportunity to work as Educational Coordinator for the Creek Nation Head Start Program. This program is one of the best of all the Indian Head Starts and I was proud to be apart of it.

The knowledge and skills I learned through this program, I will utilize in my new job for the Eight Northern Pueblo Head Start in San Juan, New Mexico.

I wish you the best of luck in your candidacy as Principal Chief of the Creek Nation. May God bless you and keep you.

Sincerely, Phyllis Chupco St. John

Dear MNN,

I recently enrolled in the Tribe. My Grandmother, Altie Berryhill died when I was young so my knowledge of Creek heritage is very sketchy. I do remember that my Dad had a cousin named Hattie Berryhill. It seems that when Hattie was in school at Liberty near Bixby, about 1930-32 one of her very good friends was Helen Norris. They lost contact with each other when Helen moved away. I married the daughter of Helen Norris. Through the years, my mother-in-law has wondered about Hattie and how she is doing. Now my mother-in-law is declining in health and would like to communicate with Hattie again. I was wondering whether any of your readers could put us in touch with Hattie Berryhill and maybe give me some information on the history and background of my Berryhill ancestors. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely, James Gray, P.O. Box 674, Buffalo, MO 65622

Dear MNN,

Could you please help me in my search for my father. I am searching for some evidence of my father's relatives or friends and his present whereabouts. If anyone has any information about ***Joseph (Jimmy) M. Jones,*** born in 1901, please contact me at (401) 943-3269.

Thank You, Delores Pollard

ELECTION CODE . . .

Continued from front page

filing Declarations of Candidacy shall be prescribed by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board and shall contain the following information: name of candidate; the candidate's place of residence and his mailing address; name of the office sought; the candidates date of birth; a copy of the candidate's tribal enrollment card; precinct and district wherein the candidate is a registered voter; an oath wherein the candidate swears or affirms that he is qualified to become a candidate for the office which he is seeking, as set forth in the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and that, if elected. he will be qualified to hold said office; a Declaration of Candidacy form must be signed by the candidate, and the signature must be properly notarized by a Notary Public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths.

***Section 510. Petitions and Filing Fees.** A Declaration of Candidacy must be accompained by a Cashier's check or certified check payable to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election Board. The filing fees are as follows: One hundred dollars ($100.00) for National Council Representatives; Two hundred-fifty dollars ($250.00) for Second Chief; Four hundred dollars ($400.00) for Principal Chief.*

Poarch Band of Creeks Express Appreciation...

DEAR MNN-

We, the delegation of the Poarch Band of Creeks would like to say MVTO for the article in your last edition of the Muscogee Nation News that covered our trip to the Green Corn Ceremony at the Tallahassee Stomp Ground. We want to say MVTO in a big way to the people of the Tallahassee Ground for the hospitality that was extended to us. We have never been treated any better. We hope this will become an annual trip for all of us. When we get our ceremonial ground (Hvsossa Tallahassee) established, an invitation will be extended to all of you to come down to Alabama and stomp with us.

Words cannot express the deep appreciation we have for Sam Proctor and his family, (Hattie, Samara, and Sam Junior) for without them, we would have been spectators instead of participators. They were patient with us and encouraged us that we would fit right in and enjoy ourselves, and we did. We want to also pay tribute to the man that has been most instrumental in keeping our Poarch Creek Dancers together over the last eight years, Gordon Lightfoot Fay (Loca-Haco). Loca-Haco and his wife, Ginger, have done a fine job with our dancers and we appreciate their efforts.

MVTO, Jack Allen McGhee, Atmore, AL

-NOTICE-

Interviews To Be Conducted For High-Tech Learning Center

The College of the Americas of Tulsa is offering free admissions interviews to qualified area individuals for job training in the exciting fields of high-tech electronics, computer high-tech electronics, computer programming and secretarial. The interviews will take place Friday, Sept. 11, at the Creek Nation Complex in Okmulgee. Individuals interviewed may be eligible for training at the College of the Americas Computerized Learning Center in Tulsa. Interested persons should call for an appointment at 756-8700, ext. 256.

CN Donates Office Space For Court Appointed Special Advocates

By Kathryn Bell

Creek Nation has recently donated office space for the operation of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) which coordinates with the Creek Nation Indian Child Welfare Program on Indian child custody cases.

The two CASA volunteers, Project Coordinator Stephanie House and Assistant Coordinator Tommie Steinsiek will be in the Creek Nation CASA office each day from 8-5 p.m.

"The Creek Nation Social Services have donated office space and telephone service for CASA (Okmulgee) branch, because of the high number of critical cases in the tribal courts that desperately need CASA volunteers.

The role of a CASA volunteer is one who is appointed the Juvenile Court of Okmulgee County to act as an advocate for an abused or neglected child," House explained. She said these duties could include investigating the circumstances surrounding the case, making an independent evaluation and monitoring the case until a permanent plan for the child is approved by the court. The two work closely with the Creek tribal court.

CASA, "the right arm of the court," as defined by the two volunteers, has a primary objective of seeing that the children ("our first and foremost concern," said the two) are put in the very best place for them - whether back into a healthy family situation or in a permanent home. "We never lose track of where these children are, " said Steinsiek.

Cheryl Potts, Supervisor of the CN Childrens and Family Service Unit appreciates the help of CASA - "Our program funding has been declining over the past three years and we have had less resources to cover the needs of our caseload, and CASA's role with the tribal court and Indian children is that they can help take up the slack - where our caseworkers have limited time to devote to each case, CASA can provide an additional independent evaluation of the circumstances involving the child. Hopefully, this additional input will result in a better judicial system to protect the rights of children and their families."

"I am really glad we have these CASA workers here at Creek Nation to work with us because they can spend more time working with the families than we can, do to our heavy caseload," remarked Helen Coon, Caseworker for the CN Indian Child Welfare Program. She added that the services CASA provides for Indian families involved in the cases are invaluable - "CASA can usually get to the families as soon as a call comes in and that timing is critical to the family." She also made a plea for more Indian CASA volunteers to work with Indian families.

Both Mrs. Potts and Mrs. Coon are on the Okmulgee CASA 14-member advisory board. Currently there are eight CASA volunteers working with the Okmulgee branch, which is a great concern for House and Steinseik- "We desperately need volunteers for CASA in the Creek Nation service area which includes several counties. We have eight volunteers and a caseload of thirty critical cases and 18-20 judicial cases. We can only work on one case at a time until it is completed," said Steinseik, a local artist who has donated all proceeds from one of her prints, entitled "Matthew 18:10" to the CASA operation.

Both of the CASA volunteers appreciated the significance of being housed at Creek Nation - "The Creek tribal court comprises an 8-county area and they have not recognized any other CASA other than our Okmulgee group and this is important to us," they both agreed.

The CASA project was introduced into Okmulgee County through the efforts of Mrs. House and her husband, John with the support from Associate District Judge Billy Martin. CASA volunteers are appointed by the juvenile division of the district court, but would not involve those juveniles that are delinquent, in need of supervision or in need of treatment.

In Okmulgee County there are over 150 cases of child abuse and neglect confirmed last year. This only takes into account the number which are reported cases and that number alone continued to rise each year. In the state, there are more than 7,000 cases of the same confirmed each year, with a national figure of over 1,000,000 abused and neglected each year.

Why do people volunteer for projects such as CASA? Stephanie and Tommy, both fulltime homemakers, explain - "On a very personal level, I felt compelled to help. As a parent, I honestly felt that child abuse is in such proportions (one in every five children) that my school-age child couldn't help but be affected by some of these children - I just felt it was my responsibility to try and do something on behalf of these children," said Mrs. House. Echoing her sentiments, Mrs. Steinsiek said hers was a "God-given" direction into CASA *involvement - "I was afraid I* couldn't handle it emotionally, but I have seen the good it has done and I am in it for the duration..."

If you would like to become a CASA volunteer and give of your energies, sensitivity and love for children, contact the CASA office at the Creek Nation Complex, Room 117 or call Tommy or Stephanie at 756-8700 ext. 294. Remember, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT TO PREVENT CHILD ABUSE. Your dedication, love of children, sensitivity and common sense are more important CASA attributes then educational background or work experience.

Because of the Children. . .

***THROUGH THE DONATION OF OFFICE SPACE BY CREEK NATION,** there are now two Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers working with the Creek tribal court and Indian Child Welfare on child custody cases involving Creek children. Shown above are Tommy Steinsiek, left, and Stephanie House, right, with Helen Coon, of the CN Indian Child Welfare office. They are shown with a print "Matthew 18-10" done by artist Steinsiek, who donated the proceeds of the print to the Okmulgee CASA office.*

Creek Nation Program Administrator Elected to National Board

By Kathryn Bell

Steve Wilson, Manager of the Community Research and Development Administration, has been elected to the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A)Board of Directors which represents the National Title VI Grantees/Indian Area Agencies or Aging Associations.

Principal Chief Cox was pleased with the announcement and will continue to support efforts to make a better way of life for Indian elderly. The elderly have been a priority for services at Creek Nation, and the Creek Chief has encouraged support and worked for, linkage of tribal and state programs that benefit Indian elderly.

The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging was organized in 1975 to provide leadership to its member area agencies on aging and to promote national policy designed to enhance living conditions for older Americans. Wilson's appointment to the Board which deals with problems of the aging, from a national scope, is in line with what he and others have been working hard to do over a number of years - "For the past three years, we have been working hard to link the Indian aging network with other national aging organizations throughout the US. The N4A represents 670 local area agencies on aging which eleven are located in Oklahoma and in the Creek Nation, we have three area agencies on aging," said Wilson.

The Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging, under Wilson's leadership, has presented workshops for the past two years, at the N4A National Conferences "to enlighten them on the area agencies on aging dealing with Indian elderly," remarked Wilson, who pointed to the crux of the problem being that although Indian elderly are eligible for services provided by the Area Agencies on Aging, they are not being adequately served. "Monies for Title VI from the Administration on Aging have not been or ever have been adequate to provide total services that the Area Agencies on Aging are providing," said Wilson.

Wilson cited the recent progress made through the Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act which has included an Indian Amendment mandating attention be given Native American elderly - "Many good changes in the law are a result of this amendment and it will encourage the state and tribal programs to coordinate services." Wilson said the law targets elderly with the greatest economic need, of which the American Indian elderly are in great number, as well as special attention addressed to low-income minority elderly. Wilson feels, in relation to the changes coming about in policy-making on a national level concerning the needs of the elderly, through the Indian amendments to the Older American's Act, is a critical issue and one that he can impact positively through his appointment to the N4A board. "This appointment, at this crucial time, is beneficial in developing guidelines at the national level."

Wilson has the distinction of being the only American Indian ever elected to the board. He is the Director of the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging and heads the CN Elderly Nutrition Program.

Creek Chief Talks About 'Turn of Century' Plans For Muscogee People And Tribal Sovereignty

If ever you've seen a big white hat driving a little silver Bronco (mud covered with prairie grass stuck in the exhaust pipe) and bumper stickers plastered all over the back that range from urging Ok Indians to vote, to urging them to vote for Claude Cox for Principal Chief of the #1 Creek Nation; along with a faded sticker "Support You Trooper's Association""- you've just encountered the Creek Chief. . . but, the most important sticker reads ***"Don't Mess With My Bingo"****. . .He means that! If you don't believe him just ask the Tulsa District Attorney and the Oklahoma Tax Commission, both of whom he has had in federal court over the Tulsa Bingo's legitimacy. The Bingo brings in an average of $100,000 a month to the tribe and the Creek Chief intends to keep it that way!. . .*

By Helen Chalakee

"Four years- one more term," the Chief said, "then I can retire knowing I have wrapped up two decades of my life into what I believe has helped make the Creek tribe ready to take on the turn of a new century."

The four-term elected Creek Chief talked about the honor of representing the third largest Indian tribe in the United States at an interview with his wife, Lilly, and their long-time friend and political ally, Margaret Thornburgh.

Seated at Margaret's dining table, the Chief wanted to talk about Creek Nation (his favorite subject), "You know, after this next term it will only be nine years until we pass through this century. I expect great things to happen to Creek Nation at that time. But only if we are prepared for it . . . that's why I'm trying so hard to make sure the foundation is laid solid for whoever the Chief will be at the beginning of the 21st Century- to make sure they have all the opportunities and advantages necessary to keep our tribe right up there on top- a leader of Indian Nations."

. . ."the turn of the last century almost wiped us out!"

"When you look back to what happened to our tribe at the turn of the last century, with the allotment act and the dissolution of our tribal government. . .it almost wiped us out! Chief added.

The federal government tried their darndest to mainstream us with the boomer sooner type folks who were coming in by the droves and taking our land.

Now, a hundred years later, they are still trying to do the same thing- trying to put the Indians under state control," explained the Chief who is currently serving on the 'Blue Ribbon Committee' to resolve state/tribal relations and who has taken both the federal and state government to court over the tribe's legality and proven victorious for Creek Nation.

. . . "we can't just talk about sovereignty, we have to use it everyday". . .

"That's why we have to hold on. We have to maintain the stronghold that keeps us unique in this Country- our sovereign status as a governing entity," the Chief said. "We can do that. Two things are important. First, we can't just talk about sovereignty, we have to use it every day. We have the right to construct our government, build and operate schools and hospitals, nursing homes, factories, banks and bingo halls," Chief said.

"Second, we have to strengthen our tribal government through legal actions, if necessary, to protect our rights to do the things I mentioned," he added.

"We are virtually unlimited in our potentials, we're just getting there- just scratching the surface of financial and political credibility."

"It has taken years of planning for the tribe to be in a good position today. Even before I was elected, when Dode McIntosh was the appointed Chief, he saw the potentials and worked toward his dream for the future of our tribe. Dode and I saw the opportunity to start acquiring property for the tribe so we bought the Oakdale School, south of Okmulgee."

"After I was elected in 1971 in the first tribal election held by the Creeks in over 70 years, I set up office in our home. The tribe had a worth value of $35,000. My salary was $300 a month and expenses for rent and telephone.

The next move was to the old Creek Council House, then to the Enterprise Building where we rented three offices and housed the CHR Program. The next move was to Oakdale. All this moving took place within a year," Chief told.

"After we moved into Oakdale, land was purchased late in 1972 for the present Complex site. Later, construction was started for the facilities; but, while we were still in Oakdale we housed the CHR's, the Creek Housing Authority. IHS Environmental Services, an education program and a mobile clinic."

In 1975, the buildings at the Complex were completed and we moved into them, except for the education program- they stayed on a while until we built additional space at the Complex."

"Today," the Chief said proudly, "the tribe doesn't owe one red-cent on the land or the facilities where we house the tribal Capitol. We've expanded the main building, adding a second floor just for accounting and recordkeeping- built a separate building for the Housing Authority and IHS, built a dental clinic, the Mound, and all the other buildings necessary for tribal operations.

We rent space to the BIA so we can have them within walking distance- this makes for a better working relationship. All this is debt-free. Owned lock, stock and barrel by the tribe. Our accountants estimate the value of the Complex and the Sports Omniplex across the road in excess of $5 million," Chief assessed.

"Besides that, we built a one-hundred unit elderly housing project just to the north of the Complex and I'm looking into the tribe purchasing a nursing home here in Okmmulgee for Creek elderly who can't live alone or take care of themselves in the elderly housing," he said.

Chief Cox commented that the Creek elderly who are able to be up and around can come five days a week and eat lunch free at one of the Creek Nation elderly nutrition centers. Those who are homebound get their meals delivered to them. "I want this to eventually be available to every elderly Indian in the Creek Nation," he said.

Elderly. . ."we can take care of their special needs better. . . with our tribal programs". . .

"One of the tribe's administrative staff was recently elected to the National Aging Board in Washington, D.C. We've been working a long time to protect the rights of the Indian elderly- they were overlooked for so long at the national level, now Washington knows there are Indian elderly out here with special needs, and as a tribal government we can take care of those special needs better than anyone else through our tribal service programs."

Chief Cox determined there were so many things working for the tribe now it was almost impossible to name them all. "For instance," he said, "getting the regulations changed for the commodity program. I have worked on a reg change so the ones living within a city of 10,000 population may soon be eligible to receive commodities. It was a thoughtless stipulation in the first place. Do they (fed. gov.) think town folks don't deserve to have food assistance made available to them?. . . We should be hearing someting very soon from Washington about this."

The Chief told of a new concept of health care for the tribe. "We need to educate our people about 'preventive health care', taking care of themselves in a positive way is very important to the endurance of our tribe."

Last year, our Okemah hospital and three clinics provided services to 60,000 patients at a cost of $4.5 million. This is a 61% increase with no additional funding. The National Council had to appropriate tribal funds just to take care of the patients at a standard level," he said.

"I hope the future brings about better health conditions for our people. But it won't, unless we start

doing something with preventive health care awareness."

Preventive Health Care. . . "we won't see immediate relief but the next century will!". . .

Chief Cox related the Creek Nation Health Program is working up a project that will cut down on clinic visits through working with the people at the community level on regular blood pressure checks, controlling blood sugars, weight control, etc. . . "we've been teaching our Head Start kids the importance of good nutrition habits and how to take good care of themselves. . .we won't see immediate relief for our problems, but the next century will."

In the sixteen years Chief Cox has been Principal Chief, he told of reclaiming land that belonged to the tribe that people had been using for so long they thought it was theirs. He listed various things that had come about during his administration. Some of them being- the first tribe in the United States to own a hospital (Creek Nation Community Hospital is being purchased through a lease-purchase agreement) -contracting all the service programs from the BIA and unashamedly admitting the tribe was performing a better job of operating than the BIA ever did.

Some of the Chief latest projects include purchasing a building in Okemah to start a business repairing athletic equipment for schools and a silk screening operation. He is looking forward to developing tourism within the Creek Nation which will create employment, recreation and an outlet for arts and crafts.

Keeping in mind the current slogan "Made in America", he thinks "Made in Creek Nation" is better and is negotiating a drapery and bedspread factory in Henryetta. "Most retail stores are looking for American made goods. . .well, we will give them Creek Nation made goods, how much more American can they get!"

(Continued Next Page)

Principal Chief Cox sits with his wife, Lilly, (left) and long-time friend, Margaret Thornburgh (right) as they visited and reminisced during an interview discussing past, present and long-term plans for the tribe.

TURN OF CENTURY continued. . .

The Creek Chief thrives on dreaming up dreams and churning up good deals for the Nation. He says he sees the next four years the most challenging than ever before for the tribe.

"The National Council will have the advantage and ability to strenghten our tribal government to protect our Nation's interest and I will be working for a good smooth transition for whoever will become Chief in 1991," he said.

"Unless this is done, an administration change could set our tribe back ten years and we can't afford that to happen," he said.

When asked about his relationship with the National Council, the Chief quickly answered, "Better!. . .it's getting better all the time. It has taken a while to establish who is supposed to do what within our branches of government, but that's what Indian tribes are famous for." He went on to say, "I honestly believe the National Council and myself have the same goals for the tribe's progress and stability, whatever is best for the people."

Chief's wife agrees with her husband's ideologies-

The Chief's wife more than agrees with her husband's ideologies. She showed me a scripture written on a small piece of paper she carries in her purse "*Create in me a clean heart, oh God, an renew a right spirit within me*" "This is the way we make it through the days," she said, "it is our favorite scripture. When he has to face an ordeal, we say this scripture."

"He's had a rough life, like most of us. . .he knows what the people need and want. People come to me and tell me what they see and feel and appreciate in his leadership- I don't go to them, they come to me and tell me these things from the goodness of their hearts they see the things he has done," the Chief's wife told.

"Just being his wife is not my only concern. My concern comes from being a part of the Creek Nation- that's the way I look at him and I think the things he does and the way he feels are what make him a great Chief," she added.

"I see his situation and know the things he is concerned about. Some people make strong accusations against him. He just goes on. He treats everyone alike- friends, those that accuse him, the elderly and the young. . .I pray for him every morning and other people pray for him. His strength lies in those! That's where his power, wisdom and knowledge come from, those prayers."

Lilly said sometime the days are not long enough, "the phone rings all the time. Before I can answer, they say 'maybe you can help' and I try to direct them where they can get help- there's always someone who needs help and when they get hold of him, he never turns them down."

"Talking about her husband's role, Lilly says, "He fits in all categories where ever he goes everyone respects him. Whether its the people in D.C. or the people here at home. We went to dinner the other evening and a man came over and told us he had told his group that they needed "get the Chief's input"- they look to him for involvement," she said.

The Chief's wife also confided that the only way the Chief could relax was sitting on his tractor, "I used to help him feed and do the work, but I haven't in two or three winters now. I back him up with my prayers. That's the way he can benefit from me. . .I just support him!"

Margaret Thornburgh has known Chief Cox since she was a sophomore in high school. She is a member of the Creek tribe and was born in Okmulgee County.

Margaret relates her years as a personal friend to the family, "I went to school with his sister and know of the personal sacrifices Claude made for his family. I worked with him in the early 50's when he was President of Public Service AFL, IBEW Local 785. He still had the same quality of responsibility as he did with his family years before," she said.

Margaret worked with the Chief on many Union projects before he became Chief of the Creek Nation. She was President of Local 88 GBBA-AFL and the first woman executive board member of the Oklahoma State AFL-Council. In 1952, she was chairman of the Stevenson-Sparksmon for President Club in this area and in 1954 was co-chairman of the Senator Robert S. Kerr re-election for Senate Club.

She served, before the merger of the AFL-CIO, as Secretary of the Oklahoma State United Labor's Political Education Organization. It included the AFL, CIO, Railroad Brotherhood and the United Mine Workers of America.

In 1954, she was appointed by President George Meany to serve as the first Woman's Director of the AFL's National Women's Division of Labor's League for Political Education. LLPE, as it was known by, was the official political arm of the AFL and covered ten and a half million members across the United States. After the merger of the AFL-CIO, she served as Co-national Director of the Women's Activities Department of the Committee on Political Education (C.O.P.E.). She is no stranger to politics, on the other hand, politics is no stranger to her either.

She talked about her association with the Chief during his terms of office and added that she thought his decision to run again this term was one of the best he had ever made because of the importance of working toward a good smooth administrative transition after the next term. "He has accomplished so many important things for the Creek tribe and in the future will be known as the most progressive and successful Indian Chief in the history of our Country. I have worked not only with Indian tribes across the U.S., but with all minorities. . .and I have seen first hand what he has done for the Creek tribe," she stated.

Asking her, as an Indian woman what were the most outstanding achievements she could recall in her 25 years of service to the AFL and later the AFL-CIO, she said proudly,"The opportunity of being assigned into Alaska in 1958 to set up a "Get the Vote Out" program for Alaskan statehood and following through the next year with a similar program for Hawaiian statehood."

"It was during this period of time that I worked with such great men as Daniel Inouye who was elected and still serving as the U.S. Senator from the 50th state, Hawaii. We have been personal friends all through the years," she said as she showed me a Christmas Card sent to her from the Senator and his family last year, "You know, he is the Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs and doing a great job, I might add."

"I think the Senator's and my friendship stemmed from the fact we were both minorities in an overwhelming sophisticated society- over the years Senator Inouye nor I have never deviated from the thought that all men are created equal, women too," she said.

"I am also proud of the fact that throughout the years, the majority of the Senators on the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs have been those I personally had the opportunity to work in their elections and re-elections. To name a few- Senators Mark Hatfield, Quinton Burdick, and of course, Senator DeConcini, and through the years many, many more," she said matter-of-factly.

"These people have had first hand information in regard to the Indian problems and have opened the opportunity for Indian tribes to get fair decisions in regard to the needs of their people," she continued.

"Many times I have met with the Chief in Washington, D.C. and we personally called upon elected officials to discuss the problems of Indian tribes, not only the Creeks, but all the tribes in the U.S.," she added.

"I think many of the elected officials who have had the opportunity to talk with Chief cox found him to be a sincere and dedicated person- not asking for hand-outs, just correcting the wrongs that have been prevalent throughout history."

"They respect him," she said, "that's why I urged him to run again." Emphasizing what she thought was the one weakness in our tribe being, "not enough of our tribal members and employees have had the opportunity to walk the Halls of Congress and know first hand how to lobby in behalf of the just cause of our people. . .the old Chief knows! Most usually, they recognize him first!"

Margaret went on to say, "Today, we have reached the point that most of the Chief's dreams have come true. . .he now has the time to devote during the next four years training tribal members how to approach members of Congress and present the programs our tribe needs for the future, and to get the tribe ready for a transition of leadership. He has always set precedents for other tribes to follow. I think this last thing he wants to do in getting the tribe ready for another administration is the most important and thoughtful act he has ever done for the Creek Nation."

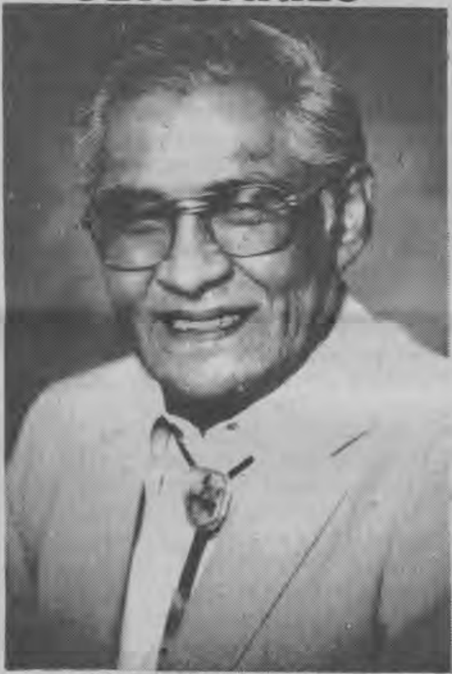
(Continued Next Page)

TURN OF CENTURY continued. . .

"I want to say something about Lilly. I think she is the perfect wife for the Chief. She listens to all his problems, consoles, sympathizes, and prays with him and then stays completely out of the internal affairs of the Creek Nation's business," Margaret said.

"As far as the Chief is concerned, I can't say enough about him. . .He has dreamed dreams that seemed impossible and has gone out and made them a reality. . .I know the Bible says to turn the other cheek. In the political world, you don't do this! But, the chief does. He treats his enemies as well as he does his friends- in my book, this makes him the world's poorest politician, as I've told him many times. But, at the same time it makes him the greatest Chief the Creeks could have!"

—OBITUARIES—



REV. AUSTIN BARNETT

The Rev. Austin Barnett,63, of Hanna died Wednesday at Community Hospital Lakeview.

Services were Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Hillabee Baptist Church in Hanna. The Revs. Allison Phillips and Tom Phillips officiated. Burial with military honors were under the direction of Black's Funeral Home in Eufaula.

Honorary pallbearers were; Webster Fixico, Louis Bible, Bridge Chuckluck, Isaac Foster, Robert Walker, T.J. Fixico, Amos Bean and Buddy Fixico. Pallbearers were V.E. Harjo, Bunny Bruner, Dan Phillips, Robert Washington, John Kelly, Hollie Roberts.

The Reverend Barnett was born July 23, 1924, at Hanna where he was reared and attended Hanna public schools.

He entered the U.S. Army in July 1943 and served in the European, Africa and Middle East theaters. He was held in a German prisoner of war camp from November 1944 to April 1945, during which time he lost a leg as a result of a battlefield injury. He was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

Obituaries Continued

He was married to the former Mamie Tiger on Dec, 15, 1945, at Eufaula. He worked in the shoe repair business, ranching and farming and was an ordained Baptist minister for 33 years. He was currently serving as pastor of Hillabee Baptist Church and was a member of Disabled American Veterans Post 80 of Henryetta.

Survivors include his wife, Mamie, of the home; three daughters, Augusta Anderson of Holdenville, Evangeline Barnett of Cherokee, N.C., and Adeline J. Jones of Okmulgee; eight sons, Benjamin and Franklin, both of Okmulgee, Austin Jr. of Tulsa, Charles of Coweta, Elliot of Henryetta, Anthony of Denver, Colo., Nathanial and Paul, both of the home; his father, Edmond Barnett of Eufaula; one brother, Edmond Barnett, Jr; of Dustin; a sister, Maxine Barnett, Eufaula; one aunt, Minnie Lowman, Smithville, OK, 17 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren.

-Note of Appreciation-

We would like to thank everyone who has helped the family and shown their sympathy during the loss of our loved one, Reverend Austin Barnett. A special thank-you to the Reverends Allison and Tom Phillips and the Creek Nation Complex for everything they have done for us.

The Family of Austin Barnett

LEO GLEN PADGETT

Funeral services for Leo Glen Padgett, 57, were held, August 7 at 2 p.m. in the Harvest Time Tabernacle at Holdenville with Rev. Johnson Roberts officiating.

Interment was in the Holdenville Cemetery under the direction of the Buckley Funeral Home of Wetumka.

Mr. Padgett, who died August 4 in Oklahoma City, was born August 29, 1929 in Dustin. He was a welder in Hughes and Seminole counties for most of his life. He was raised in the Dustin area and attended Pleasant View School.

Survivors include a son, David Glen Padgett of Lexington; five daughters, Linda Stiles, Ada, Michelle Gufton, Las Vegas, Nev., Billie Farris, Ada and Julie and Lisa Padgett of Bowlegs; two brothers, Alva Padgett, Oklahoma City and Henry Padgett of Shawnee; five sisters, Pearlie Bearhead, Holdenville, Lorene Womack, Merced, Calif., Esther Leatherman, Ada, Magdalene Woods of Wetumka and Lola Coker of Beggs and 12 grandchildren.

JAMES EMMETT DAVIS

Funeral services for James Emmett Davis, who died July 25 in Los Angeles, were held at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, August 8, at Silver Springs Indian Baptist Church southeast of Henryetta.

Interment followed under the direction of Shurden Funeral Home in the Silver Springs Cemetery.

Mr. Davis' body was taken to the church Friday, Aug. 7.

James Davis was born July 3, 1932 in Henryetta, and was a resident of Los Angeles, California at the time of his death. He was 55 years of age.

He is survived by three brothers; Nathaniel Davis of El Paso, Texas, Robert Davis of Broken Arrow and Raymond Davis of Pamona; California, three sisters. Amy Rice of Dallas, Texas, Lavon McWhorter of Bonham, Texas and Vida Long of Missoula, Mont; and several nieces and nephews.

WILLIAM BROWN

William Brown, 73, of Oakhurst died Wednesday, July 18, 1987 at Claremore Indian Hospital. US Navy Veteran and retired from A & P Construction Company in 1963. He was a member of Wekiwa Indian Baptist Church for many years. He is survived by his wife Leda of the home, son, Paul Brown, Claremore, daughter Jeanna Forester, Catoosa, daughter Joyce Edwards, Tulsa, mother Bessie Brown Gregory, Oakhurst, and ten grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren.

Services were at 2 p.m., Friday, July 10. Rev. Newman Kelly officiated.

-Note of Appreciation-

The family of William Brown wishes to express their many thank-yous for the flowers that were sent, the food that was brought and their prayers and words of encouragement during their time of grief.

The Family of William Brown

LUCILLE MARIE (CANARD) NAVARRO

Funeral services for a native of Weleetka, Okla Mrs. Lucille Marie (Canard) Navarro 68, were held in the Riverside Baptist Church of Bixby, Okla with Dr. L.M. Woodson, pastor officiating.

Interment followed in the Weleetka Hillcrest cemetary.

Mrs. Navarro was born August 17, 1918 in Weleetka. She was the daughter of Joe and Lizzie Robison Canard. She died in the Hillcrest Hospital in Tulsa, July 27th.

Lucille was raised by an Aunt Arline Robison Coleman of Weleetka who took her. A sister and 2 brothers in their parents death in the big flu epidemic in 1918.

Lucille attended Eufaula Boarding School, graduated from Chilocco Indian High School and attended Tulsa University a short while.

She was a retired employee of Mr. Lyon Indian Store, Tulsa and Mr. Indian Store of Sapulpa. She was a former member of the "Chibiabins" and Indian women's quartet from Tulsa, who performed in many places and other states. She aided in disasters of Tulsa and was active in the Democratic Party for many years in Tulsa.

Survivors include a daughter of Tulsa, Mrs. Gary (Helen Marie) Cheatham, 3 sons, Jim Navarro, Pottsville-Pa., Ronald J. Navarro and Robert Navarro both of New Mexico. Four grandchildren, Amy and Cindy Cheatham, Lisa Navarro and Shelby Navarro.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Helen Canard Burns of Garland, Texas, three brothers, George "Yufkie" Canard, Los Angeles, Calif., Rufus Canard of Weleetka and Amos Canard of Dallas and her parents.

Lucille had been mother to all her neices and nephews, Mrs. Dale (Betty Canard) Prater, of Bixby, Mrs. Stan (Leona "Tunsie" Canard) Fish of Tulsa, Dr. Roger Canard, Dallas, Mrs. Robert (Janice Burns) Fields, Alba Texas, Steven Burns, Garland Texas.

Three foster sisters, but (1st cousins) Ethel Coleman Torres, Weleetka, Mrs. Dorothy Coleman Burden, Checotah, Mrs. Mildred Coleman Apple, Okla City,. and foster brother, Charles Ray Coleman of Van Nuys, Calif.

Pall bearers were, Bryson and Clinton Prater, Jason Canard, Kenneth Fish, Victor Fife and Bob Monross.

CASPAL L. (SONNY) GUINN

Caspel L. (Sonny) Guinn, 70, of Checotah died August 8 at this home. He was a retired farmer. Services were held at Onapa Baptist Church. The Reverend Richard Ford officiated. Burial was in Greenlawn Cemetery in Checotah.

Suvivors include his wife, Inez, of the home; two sons, C.L. Guinn Jr. of Hanna and James Guinn of the home; one daughter, Barbara L. Ridley of the home; three sisters, Marie Bottoms, Oneta Martin and Bonnie Kirby, all of Checotah. Survivors also include two half sisters, Gladys Northcutt of Eufaula and Polly Jackson of Checotah; and four grandchildren, Billy Paul Ridley, Becky Ridley, Jacob Guinn and Jonathon Guinn.

JOEL THORNTON

Joel Barney Thornton, 98-year-old resident of Henryetta, died in Muskogee on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

Mr. Thornton was born Dec. 10, 1889 in Lebanon, Mo. He was a veteran of World War I, and had retired from farming. His wife preceeded him in death in 1981.

Survivors include eleven daughter, Mary Cantrell of Henryetta, Lucille Harvey and Francies Meeks, both of Sand Springs, Julie Richardson of Tulsa, Delores Manzamries of Sapulpa, Lola Surrel of Joseph City, Mo., Jenny Lee Bowles of Prattville, Josephine Cantrell and Ruby Roberts, both of Okmulgee, and Judy Christie and Kathy Ellsbury, both of Catoosa.

He is also survived by eight sons, Salsby Thornton of Inola, Frank Thornton, Lewis Thornton, and Robert Thornton, all of Bristow, Leon Thornton of Sapulpa, Owen Thornton of Cleveland, Charles Thornton of Claremore, and Rocky Thornton of Tulsa.

Other survivors include one sister, Mae Fisher of Okemah; 60 grandhcildren; 62 great grandchildren; four great, great grandchildren; and one great, great, great granddaughter.

Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Friday, August 28, at the First Indian Baptist Church, with Rev. Bridge Chuckluck officiating. Interment was in the Okmulgee Cemetery under the direction of McClendon Funeral Home.

Anderson Reunion. . .

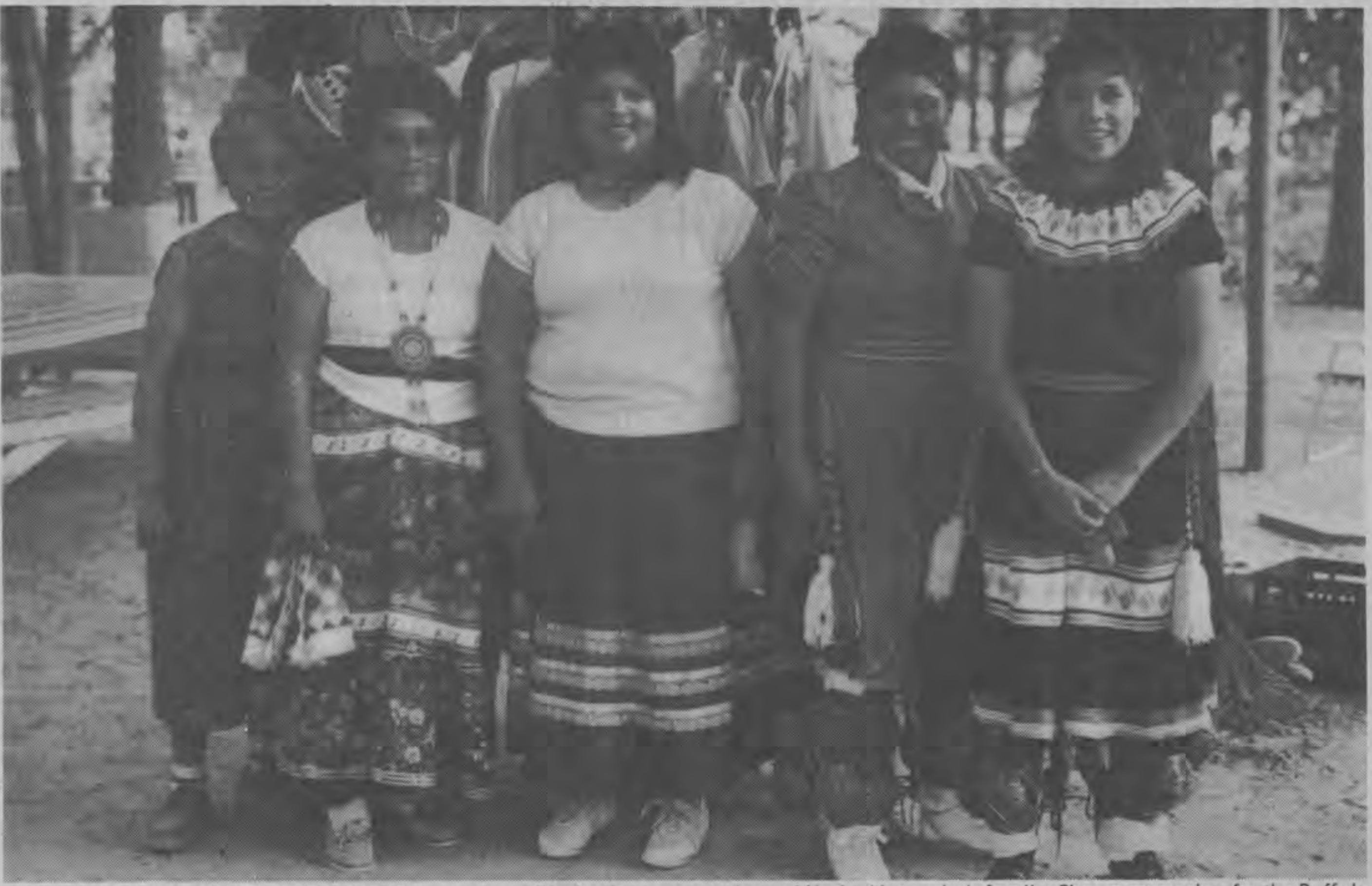
Anderson Reunion will be held September 26 on a Saturday at the Concharty Indian Methodist Church.

NOTICE

Indian Entreprenuers to Meet

American Indian and Alaska Native business persons will meet November 19 & 20 at the Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas. The two day Symposium is entitled "Doing Business In Indian Country". For further information write: National Indian Business Council, 3575 South Fox, Suite 1263 Englewood, CO. 80150 or call 303/692-6579.

Three Generations of Creek Women Participate in Ceremonial Life



PARTICIPATION IN CREEK CEREMONIALS *is a way of life for three generations of Linda Alexander's family. Shown preparing for the Buffalo Dance at Greenleaf Stompground's annual Green Corn celebration, are (left to right) Linda Alexander, the matriarch of the family, Norman; her daughter Bertha Tilkens, Norman; Bonnie Gibson, Liberty Mounds, (who is an employee of the Creek Nation); Anna Cooper, Bertha's daughter, Midwest City, and Dorothy Butler, Bonnie's daughter. —photo by Gary Robinson*

By Kathryn Bell

The role of women in Creek traditional ceremonial life is an important one - not only from an historical perspective, but in a contemporary context as well.

Creek women have not only been sustainers and keepers of the domestic life of the tribe, but have had the roles of teachers of family values, and keepers of traditions that have been handed down to their daughters. In addition, many Creek women have been influential in the tribe's history of government and civic affairs.

Inspite of often having dual roles of homemaker and fulltime member of the labor force, many Creek women today continued to participate in and pass on knowledge of, the ceremonials of their tribal towns. Such is the case with Linda Alexander, Norman, a 70-year old Creek grandmother who has passed on the traditions of Creek women, to her daughters, who in turn have taught the granddaughters. "Although I live a great distance away from this Ceremonial ground (Greenleaf) when they have a dance, I'm here to camp and participate," she said as she prepared the evening meal that would follow the Buffalo Dance, in which her daughters and granddaughters were participating, during the annual Green Corn dance at the Greenleaf Stompgrounds near Okemah, and one of a dozen or so active Creek ceremonial grounds within the Creek Nation area.

Linda's daughters, Bonnie and Bertha are two of the four women who have been appointed by Grounds Chief Tony Hill as leaders. This is an important role at the Creek ceremonial grounds. These appointed four will lead the women's Ribbon Dance, held annually on the eve of Green Corn. These four are the first ones to take medicine, followed by the members of the ground, and will also lead the Buffalo Dance on Saturday night. They are chosen for four years.

Defining the role of the woman at her grounds dances, Linda said, "We are the ones who feed the men inside the grounds and all the visitors, we take part in the medicine and we try and teach our children these ways." Linda was born and raised in Hughes County and is retired from 25 years service with the State Hosptial at Norman. The last of nine children born to Waddie (a farmer and active in the affairs of the Seminole tribe) and Mamie Cumseh Gibbs, she was raised all of her life around the New Tulsa Stompground. Later in adult life, Linda became active at Greenleaf, the grounds of her uncle Tony Hill.

In her youth, Linda went to Eufaula Boarding School, and then on to Chilocco where she became disallusioned and dropped out. She has worked hard at educating and raising her six children; Bonnie Gibson, Bertha Tilkens, David Alexander, Marvin Alexander, Paul Alexander and Thomas Jones.

Linda is a member of the Alligator Clan.

There were four of her children at the stompground that night -"all of my children and grandchildren are active at the ceremonial ground - this is one reason why I camp here so that my children and their children will know about Creek ways," she said.

As the evening wore on and the Friendship Dance gave way to the night's stompdancing which would continue all Saturday night, the other two daughters shared their feelings about the importance of their involvement with the grounds. "I know that later on, we won't have this way of life, so at least my children will see the way I was raised and know and hopefully understand what I and their grandmother have taught them," said Bonnie Gibson, who is also the Program Administrator for the CN Food Distribution Program. She has worked for seven years for the tribe and is the mother of five children; Thomas, 18, Dorothy, 16, Chris, 14, Elizabeth, 7, and Jimmy Roy II, 5. Participating at the ground's Green Corn were Elizabeth, Chris, Dorothy and Thomas. This is the generation that Bonnie, her mother ans sister hopes will carry on the traditions. These traditions, which involve the women, in Bonnie's understanding, are a strict set of rules that govern their conduct at the ceremonial ground. With the belief that each action observed during the Green Corn is critical for having a good dance - the rules for conduct of each participating person, are strictly adhered to. By observing these rules for both men and women, a good dance will result and this will be beneficial for everyone. The quality of the personal and community lives of the ceremonial ground members will be affected throughout the year by the quality of the ground's summer ceremonials, culminating with the Green Corn dance.

"I feel good after the weekend, I feel like we have accomplished what we came here to do - to have a good dance - the singers and shellshakers have done good and we will all benefit - it's a good feeling," said Bonnie.

Bonnie's sister, Bertha Tilkens, who serves as the first women's leader, has likewise taught her three children their Creek traditions. The night of Green Corn was a special night - her 28-year old son, Burt, received his Creek name during the ceremonial. "My kids are not full-blood, and I felt it was my responsibility to teach them both ways -non-Indian and Creek. I have taken them to white churches and to Creek churches, but it is their choice to make," reflected Bertha, who is an accountant with the State of Oklahoma, and who travels each year to Greenleaf.

The time of Green Corn, in Creek tradition, is a time when each person forgives another for past wrongs that may have been committed and likewise, asks forgiveness for anything negative they may have done to another - all is righted, and the slate wiped clean - to look ahead positively, to a new year. This feeling was shared by Bertha - "This time is a time of spiritual connection for me - I take the medicine and admitting my faults and failures before God, I make my pledge to do better the coming year. Every day and for the rest of the year, we have experienced something here that we can follow each day."

The time of Green Corn is also, a time for family - "We see old friends and families that we haven't seen since last year at Green Corn and this is good - it strengthens us as individuals and families and I feel this is what's missing now in society - family togetherness. But here at the grounds, we must all work together to make it all go and in that sense - we are family . . " remarked Bertha.

The American Indian woman, unlike the non-Indian stereotypical image of subservience, historically held powerful roles in tribal government and social societies. The Iroquois Confederacy at one time was comprised of women who held attorney-like positions. Hernando DeSoto in the 1500's, described in his journals, Indian women who were leaders of their tribes or "chief" as he referred to them. This role is an active one today as many tribal women are teachers of the traditions and history of the tribe to the next generation, herbalists, keepers of tribal and family values, and leaders among their people.

OU Education Graas Receive Study Grants

Four graduate students in the University of Oklahoma College of Education are recipients of 1987-88 Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Minority Doctoral Study Grants.

The recipients are W.L. Haskins Jr. of Oklahoma City, Delores Big Foot, Jo Lynn Degranes and Deborah Hicks, all of Norman.

In return for assistance, the doctoral students have agreed to seek employment after graduation within the Oklahoma system of higher education.

The purpose of the grant program, a part of the state's civil rights plan, is to increase the availability of qualified persons from minority races for employment as faculty and staff in state colleges and universities.

Bristow Couple Celebrate Many Years of Being Together. . .

Mr. & Mrs. Kessler Bigpond Celebrate 63rd Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Kessler Bigpond, Bristow, celebrated their 63rd Wedding Anniversary, August 29 with their family and friends. The Kesslers were married in Holdenville on August 29, 1925. Lucy Kessler is 80 years old and Kessler is 79 years old. The couple have four sons, David, Ethan, Kessler Jr, and Wendell Bigpond and a daughter, now deceased, Cecelia Ann. The couple also have 18 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

By Kathryn Bell

In an interview conducted at the Bigpond home in Bristow, a simple answer was given to the question of how two people have been able to live harmoniously together for 63 years- "We have tried to get along with one another all these years, and we have tried to live a Christian life and bring up our children in a Christian home."

The Bigponds greatest accomplishment, they feel is in raising their family in the fact that all four of their sons are college-degreed. This is a great source of pride for the couple, and rightly so.

Three sons are involved in working with Indian people and a fourth, David, will be leaving Bristow soon to go into the mission field in India. Kessler, Jr., works in New Mexico with the Apache Tribe as a tribal developer. Ethan is an instructor with the Kickapoo Tribe in Topeka, Kansas. Wendell is closer to home - he is a RN at the Claremore Indian Hospital.

Mr. Bigpond was born and raised in Bristow and is a retired engineer from a California company. The Bigponds moved to California in 1957 and returned to Bristow in 1975.

Mrs. Bigpond, who was born at Hanna, has been a homemaker all of their married life. Both are members of the Choska Indian Methodist Church.

The Bigponds confided the only time they have had "disagreements" is over the subject of "being broke sometimes," they laughed. But they were quick to add - "we've been pretty well satisfied with married life."

Congratulations to an exceptional couple.

Morning Star Acknowledges Efforts and Success of Bristow Support-

By Anita Freeman, Morning Star Secretary-

With the financial support of the Bristow Indian Community, Morning Star Outreach Center was able to reach over 2,500 students during the first three months of their Drug, Alcohol and Inhalant Awareness Program. Printed information and presentations on the dangers and consequences of substance abuse were made during school assemblies.

Presentations were made at nineteen schools, both B.I.A. and public. We were able to make three presentations at the Eufaula Dormitory, Jones Academy, Carter Indian Seminary and Riverside Indian School and public schools within the Creek Nation boundaries.

The Morning Star Awareness Program staff members were often asked to visit classrooms after the presentations for a question and answer time and to interact with the students. Staff members are, Negiel Bigpond, Jack Sunagoowie, Rita Williams, Mary Ross-Tyon. Also offering his help was Dan O'Canas.

Substance abuse has no limits and knows no boundaries. The problems exists in city schools, rural schools and government schools.

The lack of parent support and supervision makes boarding schools a prime target for substance abuse. Dormitory supervisors and children alike have told how the older students encourage and supply the younger students with alcohol and drugs.

This is not to say that the supervision in government schools is inadequate, or that government schools are a bad environment. For many children the B.I.A. school life is much better than their home environment, many do come from a homelife where alcoholism is a problem.

With the assistance of Dan O'Canas an ex-inmate, giving an eye-opening, first hand account of prison life, which is often the consequence substance abuse leads to. Dan presents a message for young people to stay out of any situation that can lead to life behind prison walls.

Dan stresses the need to "say no" to all drugs, alcohol and inhalants because of the consequences behind crimes that are committed by people high on drugs and alcohol.

"Be a winner, not a loser" is his point during the presentation.

"Morning Star Outreach Center has given me an opportunity to share my experience with a great many people and I can't thank them enough for their involvement in the awareness and prevention area that is so badly needed," said Dan in a television interview with OETA Channel 11, when the Awareness Program was presented at the Liberty Mounds High School.

Morning Star met Dan through their involvement in volunteer Prison Ministry work with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Volunteering over 4,000 hours in 13 of Oklahoma's correctional centers in the past three and a half years. Dan and his wife, Belle, have an active "Harvest Time Ministry".

Realizing that 77.3% of Oklahoma's Indian population who are arrested and incarcerated for crimes that are drug and alcohol related, and that statistics further show that seven out of every ten inmates who are released end up back in the penal system due to drugs and alcohol. This information prompted Morning Star to develop an awareness program to reach the youth and discourage them from substance abuse.

Incarceration does not stop the use of drugs and alcohol, the problem still exists in the correctional centers. On one of our recent visits to a medium security correctional center, we were told that a 23 year old Indian man we had met previously had been killed during an alcohol related incident.

A prevention and intervention program is needed for both the public and those who are incarcerated.

Morning Star also uses the assistance of Ms. Mary Ross-Tyon, Education Counselor for Native American Students at Rogers State College, in Claremore. Mary gives a presentation to the students on the advantages of Higher Education. She also tells of how many students lose interest in college and lose their scholarships because they get involved with substance abuse. Mary was overwhelmed by the response she received from the students at the Eufaula Dormitory wanting information on careers and higher education.

Morning Star Outreach operates soley on volunteer labor, all funding goes to the efforts of the outreach work.

With school starting soon Morning Star will continue to make presentations in school systems and communities.

Morning Star had set a goal to have four certified Native American Indian Counselors in the field of substance abuse to work in our Outreach effort. With the support of the Bristow Indian Community, we were able to send four staff members to attend seminar workshops earning a total of 500 credit hours, 380 more hours are needed to complete the required Seminary hours for certification.

We thank the Bristow Indian Community for seeing the need for such a program and helping with our efforts.

Every effort is needed in order to educate children to the destruction of substance abuse, because our children are being raised in a drug oriented world.

For more information about Morning Star Outreach Center contact: Negiel L. Bigpond, P.O. Box 97, Bixby, Ok. 74008.

Morning Star President, Neigel Bigpond, (far right) addresses the Senior Class at Liberty Mounds High School during a presentation of the Alcohol, Drug and Inhalant Program at the end of the school year.

Creek Dancer/Choreographer Retires From Hollywood Career-

By Rita Williams

"You have to brave heavens wrath, scaling the pinnacles of the imaginations alone to bring forth the fire of inspiration and pazazz for your dancers." "You have to mold them yourself with each spring and bend of the body." "You pray to the God's to give them feeling-understanding-love and a great sense of humor, but without the right togetherness, heaven's blessing and your own daring, there is nothing", stated Rene' De Haven, ex-professional dancer and now choreographer.

Rene' has danced on stage/tv and various aspects of showbiz, which is motion picture, tv and nightclubs. To list a few are; Mickey Rooney Review, Sammy Davis Show, Liberace Review, Ella Fitzgerald Show, Gary Moore T.V Special, Jerry Lewis T.V, Dance Theater of West Coast, Moulin Rouge, Sheckie Green Show. Movies were; Singing In The Rain, Can-Can, Jailhouse Rock, Rock Around The Clock, Mohawk, Hiawatha, Foxfire, Give A Girl A Break.

De Haven has had his own Rene' De Haven dancers and choreographed, Moro-Landis Production, Dorothy Durbin, D.D. Smith and Co., Marshmallow Co, Burning Glass, Thunder Bird Hotel Las Vegas, Jack Benny, Rose Greer Special, Fountain Bleu, Get Down , and the list goes on.

SHOWN IN THE HEYDAY OF A GLITTERING HOLLYWOOD CAREER, *Rene DeHaven, who was born and raised in Okmulgee, demonstrated the dance form that he was a master of during his long and illustrious career as a dancer and choreographer. Now retired, DeHaven, a Creek citizen, returned to Okmulgee to make his home.*

Joseph Willington McIntosh, Creek, is his birthright name, and was raised on a farm near Begg, Okla. "I remember picking corn to sell to the manager of the Yale Theatre so he would let me in." "I would then go home and make my own stage settings." "I always wanted to dance and pretending came along with a big part of it."

From the farm life, he then moved to Tulsa to work for the Sinclair Oil Company. While in Tulsa, the desire never left. At that time, he had gone to see a 'Mentalist', Alano Doss.

"Mr. Doss was calling out initials of certain people and telling them about their future." "I had written a question on a piece of paper but was hesitant to give this to him." "At that time male dancers were not heard of and I didn't want him to read aloud my question but in my heart I was saying, I wished I had dropped my question in the box." "Just about that time, he stopped and called my name out loud and said, I would be successful in what I wanted to do, but I would have to go to the west coast to make it." "I did go to California, but it just didn't happen." "I had to make it happen from a series of different acquaintances putting me in contact with the right people, hard work and determination."

Rene' shares a time in his life when he watched others doing what his heart ached to do. "I had gone to MGM seeking employment for a Blueprint job at the studio." "I saw all these kids going through casting of "Annie Get Your Gun" movie." "It just broke my heart to know this is what I wanted to do and I made the prediction to myself," "One day I will be in there--something júst hit me, that I would, I was that determined!" "About a year after that I joined casting."

Rene' had to be a feature dancer because he was so short. "I had to work extra hard-one thing I was known for and that was my elevation." remarked Rene'.

De Haven belonged to the Screen Actors Guild under the name of Chebon'Chot'e and had Indian parts for the movies, Hiawatha-Mohawk and Foxfire.

"My inspiration for dancing was my Uncle Turk McIntosh, who was a traditional dancer and for my quickness I owe to my mother for always switching my legs with a peach limb," joked Rene'.

In 1961 Rene' had a heart attack and had to stop working for awhile. He went back to work for one more job, which was an Indian number-eagle dance in a big production number. After that he went into being a choreograhper at which he has remained for 16 years.

Rene' wants to be of help with his Indian people and hopes to be of help with the knowledge that he has. Rene' quotes, "I would like to see more Indian involvement in theatre because of the ability they possess."

His parents were Willie C. McIntosh and Lilah Deerisaw of Okmulgee. His sisters are; Ella Narcho, Ann Hayes, Lena Skeeter, Dorothy Crawford and Chiquitta Juneau.

103rd Annual Reunion of Chilocco Indian School Alumni Held in Tulsa

By Ethel Torres

103rd Annual Reunion of Chilocco Indian School Alumni-87 was held at the Marriott Hotel in Tulsa. Tsa-La-Gi of Tahlequah was the host chapter. Bill Tyndall of Muskogee was the chairman of the Reunion Committee.

Four busloads plus a number of individual cars made the trip to Chilocco to see the precious buildings dilapidated. Many had tears, and many checked tears.

With a bar-b-que lunch served at noon, arriving back at the Marriott in time for the evenings pow-wow emceed by Sammy "Tonekei" White of Oklahoma City Cedric Starr-Lewis Swindler and others assisting. Mrs. Dorothy Burden formerly of Weleetka, won a shawl and the 1/2 jar of coins. Many prizes of raffles and donations were won.

The Saturday a.m. Chiloccos Co. "C" breakfast was emcee'd by Bill Chandler, Amarillo, Texas , class of '42-past Industrial Relations Director for Phillips Petroleum Co's. Southwest Region.

Mose Parris-Fountain Hill-Arizona received the award for winning the best design submitted for a monument to be erected at the 45the Division Museum in Oklahoma City to Chilocco's fallen of all wars. The business meeting chaired by Alumni president Tom Revas of Seminole, Mrs. Alma Moses Laney of Arlington, Texas was elected new president.

The banquet was emcee'd by Mike Harding class of '35 from Bermuda Run, N.C. over 400 attending was from Narobi, Africa, Neil Gourd received recognition for service to Chilocco.

Jamie Swafford of Buena Park-California, Lucille Billy, Colleen Plunkett and Ed Moore all received door prizes.

Lewis Swindler-chairman for the 1987 Chilocco Hall of Fame inducted the seven new recipients.

New inductees are; Bill Tyndall-Omaha/Creek, class of '49 fr Muskogee, William Bean, Cherokee-class of 48-Des Moines, Iowa, Ernest Childers-absent-receiving his certificate and medallion was Virginia Love., Marvin Lidell-Chickasaw-Ardmore, Okla class of '36, Bill Chandler-Cherokee-class of '42, Amarillo, Texas, Virgil Holcomb-Cherokee-'37-Tahlequah, Edward Ellison-deceased.

Each received a medallion and certificate. The Forrest Wasson orchestra played for the following dance until midnight. Sunday a.m. services were held plus a board of directors meeting before everyone went into their many various directions.

For Your Good Health. . .

CN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL GIVES TIP ON HEART ATTACK

Heart attacks afflict scores of Oklahomans each day. No one is completely immune from heart attacks, but research has shown that the risk of heart attacks can be cut considerably, say physicians at Creek Nation Community Hospital.

The typical heart attack victim is an overweight man who smokes more than a pack of cigarettes each day and who has a high cholesterol level and high blood pressure. Researchers have found that the more of these factors that are present, the greater the risk of heart attack.

But, these factors are both preventable and curable, hospital physicians say. The weight of even the fattest person can be brought down with the help of a medically sound weight reduction program.

Authorities recommend overweight people seek the help of a physician to reduce weight rather than relying on fad diets, which often are unhealthy.

And, since the surgeon general's 1964 report of the hazards of smoking, literally millions of Americans have stopped puffing tobacco. In some cases it may be necessary to seek help in breaking off an addiction to cigarettes, but it is more common just to quit.

High cholesterol levels may be more difficult to bring under control, according to physicians at Creek Nation Community Hospital. There are no drugs which have proven to be safe and still reduce the amount of cholesterol in the body.

However, studies show that a controlled diet can go a long way toward reducing cholesterol in the blood. A low cholesterol diet replaces animal fats with fish and vegetable oil.

High blood pressure is brought down and kept at a safe level by millions of people with proper diets and medication. Have your blood pressure checked often; if it's high, see a physician promptly.

Use your physician to help lessen the risk of heart attack. Remember, it's never too late to begin a program of risk reduction. Recognizing this, some insurance companies even offer reduced premiums as an incentive for people to stop smoking, or lose a substantial amount of weight.

The death rate from hypertension has been declining, recently, primarily because of better public understanding of its causes, local physicians say.

Help in reducing the risk of heart attack is available, but it's still up to each of us to take the first step.

Sapulpa Student Top Academic Achiever

Denise Ann Fixico will be a seventh grader at Sapulpa Middle School. Dee graduated from the sixth grade on the Principal's Honor Roll receiving eleven academic awards.

Dee recently returned from the "Explorations in Creativity II" for gifted and talented Indian students. The summer program is conducted by the American Indian Research and Development,Inc (AIRD). Dee's major at EIC was Science and her minor was Instrumental Music.

Dee also plays the piano. In April, 1987, she competed at district contest held at University of Tulsa; she received a 1 enabling her to compete at the state level in Edmond at Eastern State University. She received a superior rating of 1 at the State Oklahoma Music Teachers' Association in May.

Dee played in the 1987 Kiwanis League, a basketball league in Sapulpa. She was a member of the Cawvey team and finished with a perfect record of 10-0.

Dee is a member of the Sapulpa Girls Softball Association League, 12 years and younger. Dee was a member of the Wildcats that finished as league Champs with a record of 8-3. Dee pitched for the Wildcats. She attends the Salt Creek United Indian Methodist church.

Denise is the daughter of Paul and Georgetta Fixico of Sapulpa. She has one younger sister, Leah Rae. Her grandparents are George and Lizzie Bruner and California and Winey Fixico of rural Holdenville.

Tribal Leaders Elected By Chickasaw Nation

Bill Anoatubby and Kennedy Brown have been elected governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, of the Chickasaw Nation.

Anaotubby, who was lieutenant governor, and Brown received 2,010 votes, or 54.5 percent, in ballots counted Tuesday.

Running mates Wilson Seawright and Overton Cheadle received 1,178 votes, Kenneth Keel and L.M. Cass received 493 votes.

Anoatubby succeeds Overton James, who did not seek re-election. Anoatubby had been lieutenant governor of the 25,000 member tribe since 1979.

CN Riding Club Extends Welcome at Meetings—

The Creek Nation Indian Riding Club welcomes all interested individuals or families with the desire to ride or participate in an organization such as this .

The riding club meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Creek Nation Rodeo grounds, located west of the Creek Nation Complex at 7:p.m.

Play days have already been in progress for points accumulated at the end of the season. President Glen Jones welcomes everybody to come out.

Creek Tot Wins Tulsa Baby Beauty Contest

Lloyd Brown, three month old daughter of Miss Jeanice Lee and Mr. Floyd Brown recently competed in the Tulsa Baby pageant and won the top five Baby Supreme out of 1200 children. She also received the Chubby Champion and 3rd place in beauty. Also, received were two gold seal diplomas, one in beauty and one in health. Lloyd is the granddaughter of Dorothy and Jeff Lee of Kellyville and Florence and Felix Brown of Okmulgee.

All Night Gospel Singing

An All Night Gospel Singing will be held October 17 starting at 7:30 p.m. at Oakhurst Indian Fellowship Baptist Church, 1630 S. 58th W. Ave. M.C. is "Spook" Wesley. Everybody is invited!

***"THE LITTLE MISS FIRECRACKER"** title went to Erika Lowe, 16-month old daughter of Karen Lowe, Oklahoma City, in a Fourth of July event held in OKC. Erica is shown with her grandparents, Rev. John and Eliza Lowe, who made her prize-winning costume.*

Tory and Terry are shown with their great uncle, Joseph Factor a CN Security Guard.

Twin Boys For Gerald & Julie McNac

Twin boys were born to Gerald and Julie McNac of Konawa, Okla. on February 6, 1987 at Carl Albert Indian Hospital in Ada, Oklahoma. Torrance James (Tory) (Cheboni) was born at 7:14 a.m. weighing 6 lbs. and 21 inches in length. Terel Allen (Tery) (Chebonigee) was born at 7:16 a.m. weighing 5 lbs., 3 ozs. and was 20 inches in length. Tory and Tery were welcomed home by their two sisters, Kara and Samatha. Maternal grandparents are T.J. Wolf and Sarah Fields. Paternal grandparents are Paul and Mabel McNac and Raymond Rash. Great-grandparents are Betsy Factor and Helen Gibson, both of Okmulgee.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Sylvia Faye Bear

Muncy and Blanch Bear, Norman, are happy to announce the birth of their infant daughter, Sylvia Faye Bear, born August 4 in Lawrence, Kansas and weighing 9 pounds and 6 ounces, measuring 21 inches long. The grandparents are; Tom Bear Jr., Ada, and Wynema Huddleston, Olympia, Washington and Thomas Yahola, Depew, and Elizabeth Larney, California.

Stovall Museum Changes Name But Same Location

We are pleased to announce that the Stovall Museum of Science and History has been officially renamed, by action of the Oklahoma State Legislature. Our new name, which became effective July 1, 1987 is The Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. We are still part of the University of Oklahoma and our mailing address and telephone number remain the same.

NEXT CN NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING SEPTEMBER 26, 1987

Michele Lynn Pidgeon

Creek Girl Wins Parade Trophy

Michele Lynn Pidgeon is shown with the trophy she received from the Kellyville Parade held at Sapulpa on July 11, 1987, for being the youngest rider riding alone in the parade. Michele is 3 years old, and the daughter of Kandi Lowe and Stephen Pidgeon; granddaughter of Willie & Pat Pidgeon, Legus Lowe and Ruby Watters. Michele is a member of the Creek Nation Indian Riding Club and participates in the club's play day events, which are barrel racing, pole bending, flags and the ribbon race. Michele rides her registered Apaloosa gelding whose name is Dusty.

Okemah Clinic Improves Patient Care

The Okemah Indian Health Clinic recently announced some changes designed to improve patient flow, announced Geneva Harris, R.N., FNP, who serves as the clinic's clinical coordinator.

Harris and Charlena Dunlap, administrative clerk, outlined the changes and provided some reminders for patients enabling the clinic to better meet the health care needs of the Indian population. They include: When patient arrive at the clinic, they are triaged, or assessed, by the nurse. It is important for the patient to familiarize the nurse with the severity of the illness. If the nurse determines that the illness/injury is severe, the patient is immediately seen by the clinic's physician. In such cases, cooperation is asked from other patients already waiting for treatment.

Clinic hours are from 8 a.m to 5 p.m., with a lunch break from noon to 1 p.m. The clinic is closed Wednesday afternoons from noon to 5 p.m. Please observe these hours for the courtesy of the staff, who must all be there until every patient is treated.

Appointments are urged for patients if at all possible. If appointments are made, the clinic staff can better judge when available time will be, should non-appointment patients (walk-ins) arrive. Walk-ins will be assigned a time when they arrive at the clinic, so they can leave and return when the clinic staff can treat their medical needs. This system might allow them to return to work or home, rather than waiting at the clinic. To schedule appointments call 918-623-0555.

A full-time physician, Dr. Kathryn Black, is on staff at the clinic during office hours (see item 2). With the same physician providing medical treatment, patients will be assured continuity of care each time they seek medical attention at the clinic.

Other staff members include a pharmacist, a receptionist/medical records clerk and administrative clerk, a registered nurse, a nursing clinical coordinator (whose credentials also include family nurse practitioner status), and a licensed practical nurse. Also housed in the clinic offices include alcohol rehabilitation/social services, a community health representative (CHR) for case workers, a part-time housekeeper, and a records clerk.

"We greatly appreciate cooperation from our patients," Harris said. "We've seen the need for some changes and will be looking at more in the future."

One of those changes will include patient surveys to give the clinic staff input from patients about the health services received. These surveys will be given to patients who will place them in a suggestion box before they leave the clinic.

Another change planned is more patient teaching. Presentations will be made helping patients understand and care for some of their own health problems. Areas that may be included are diabetes, obstetrics (mother and baby care before the baby is born), gyn ecology (women's health problems), and others as needs arise.

Other services available at the clinic are an audiologist, who tests hearing the first and third Monday of each month and a dietitian, who is available to provide information for special diets such as for diabetics or heart patients. Please call the clinic at 918-623-0555 to schedule appointments.

HASKELL INSTITUTE SCHOOL REUNION
1960 - 65
OCTOBER 10

Haskell Institute will hold a school reunion for classes 1960-65 October 10 at Haskell Junior College, Lawrence, Ks. Those planning to attend should make their reservations early at these suggested motels Ramada Inn, Travel Lodge and Four Seasons. For more information contact: Flo Tanner-Spotted Bear, 918 341-8430, 709 N. Sioux, Claremore, OK. 74017.

Seminoles from Brighton reservation in Florida attend Baptist Association, shown are; Alice Snow, Leona Smith, Ruby Smith and Jack Smith.

The Muscogee-Seminole-Wichita Association Holds 112th Meeting

By Rita Williams

The Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita Indian Baptist Association held their 112th Annual Meeting, August 12-16, 1987 at their assembly grounds just south of Henryetta.

The theme was "Let The Churches Grow Through Laity." The services began Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. with the Rev. Bridge Chuckluck holding the annual sermon. Rev. Bill Tiger held the 8:30 a.m. Bible study every morning on the book of

throughout the day with the evening worship service being held by, Rev. J.B. Fish. Preschool/Children/Youth directed by youth sponsors, Rhonda

McConnell. The Youth directors were Diane Fish and Susanna Factor. Sonny Harjo from Norman, Ok. held the youth services every night. Friday night the worship service was held by Rev. Richmond Carr.

Saturday evening was the Memorial Service/Obituary

Committee held by Leona Colbert.

Sunday regular services were held, with Rev. Dan Phillips holding the mid-morning service and farewell. Rev. Phillips sermon was on "Growing Through Missions."

In the year of 1931 the Association sent their first missionary, Willie King to Dana, Florida to start their first mission church. The next church to be organized was on the Brighton reservation, Big Cypress and Hollywood. Alice Snow, Seminole, from the Brighton Indian Baptist church in Florida, mentioned that just recently another church has been formed at Immokalee, Brighton Church being the mother.

The Association has sent out two missionaries to reservations in Florida, they were, Stanley Smith and Willie King. Pastoring at these churches on the reservations have been, Edward and Samaria Leader, Fred Lindsey, Elliott Leitka and Andrew Fish.

Springfield Church Fellowship Hall Gets Renovation

By Rita Williams

Recently the Springfield Indian Methodist Church was blessed with 20 workers coming from Carrolton, Texas to renovate the churches badly needed fellowship hall.

To the members, this was a dream come true. And excited about it they were.

Upon arrival, workers were busy, both men and women, hammering, sawing, and pulling nails.

Close by was a heap of old rotted lumber that had once been the porch and in place of the old stood a new porch to the fellowship hall.

Thomas and Sallie Yahola along with Susie Scott, the eldest member of Springfield were present to observe this dream come true.

Spokesperson for the group was Chairperson, Christie Rosset of the Mission Committee of the Holy Covenant United Methodist Church. "It was our youth who first inspired the adults to do a work such as this." "We are involved with a Refugee Mission in Dallas, Texas, but have always wanted to do a work trip service, so we contacted Becky Thompson and she put us in touch with Thomas Yahola." "For the last three months we have been busy having fund raisers to buy materials that we needed." "We have learned as much about the people that we are working with as the mission work we do." Rosset explained. "Also, for some it is the first experience among Native American people and that is an experience in itself."

The group spent four busy days on the fellowship hall. Not only did they get a new porch, but a new paint job on the inside as well.

***SPRINGFIELD INDIAN METHODIST CHURCH,** near Okemah, recently underwent renovation,* aided by a group of 20 enthusiastic adults from the Holy Covenant United Methodist Church in *Carollton, Texas. Thomas Yahola, of Springfield and Susie Scott, the eldest member of the church were present to see a dream come true in the church's renovation.*

News of National College Scholarships. . .

AIHEC Establishes Fund for Colleges

In a far-reaching move to build their own self-support, member colleges of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) have established the American College Fund.

"This may well be the most significant action we have ever taken to insure the progress and development of our institutions," said Gerald "Carty" Monette, President of AIHEC.

To develop the Fund, AIHEC "gave" the Fund to three surprised individuals: Anne Sward Hansen, well-known member of the CBS "As The World Turns" cast, Vito Perrone of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, and Rose Robinson of the American Indian Program of the Phelps Stokes Fund.

"We wanted people that we knew and trusted," said Monette. "Each of these people has been with us in both spirit and deed over the years," he said.

The Fund has been established and incorporated in the District of Columbia as an independent, non-profit organization for the purpose of raising funds for the support of American Indian tribal colleges.

The initial Board of Trustees--Sward Hansen, Perrone, and Robinson--will build the board to include both Indian and non-Indian members. "The first and foremost qualifications to serve," said Sward Hansen, "will be a commitment to American Indian higher education.

The American Indian College Fund is headquartered in Washington, D.C. in association with the Phelps Stokes Fund. Donations to the American Indian College Fund/PSF are tax-exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

UCLA Offers Financial Aid to Indian Students

The University of California, Berkeley, has announced the opportunity of financial aid available to qualifying American Indian students in the graduate field of Public Health.

The University of California, Berkeley has one of the more dependable financial support programs of any graduate university, utilizing a Graduate Minority Program fellowship and other financial aids to encourage ethnic minority student enrollment, both in-state and out-of-state.

Most of the 188 Indian and Alaska Native students who have obtained MPH degrees from Berkeley have had assistance from the Graduate Minority Program to help them through, according to St. Germaine.

"Special grants are also available to Indian students working toward the Masters in Social Welfare degree at Berkeley, as well as, many other professional areas," stated St. Germaine.

The American Indian Graduate Program at Berkeley provides specialized counseling, advisement, housing, and social support to Indian students on campus. The program has led to the graduation of American Indian and Alaska Native students with MPH degree from seventy-one tribes and twenty-five states, noted the program director.

Requirements for graduate school are: a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college/university; an acceptable grade-point average received as an undergraduate; Graduate Record Examination (GRE) taken. Applications should be submitted by the deadline date of February 5, 1988 for admission, and January 5, 1988 for consideration of fellowships and/or Graduate Minority Scholarship funding.

Information regarding the different graduate programs and financial assistance can be obtained by telephoning the American Indian Graduate Program, (415) 642-3228 (collect) or writing to: American Indian Graudate Program, 140 Earl Warren Hall, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.

Jerri McLemore

McLemore Among KU 1987 Graduates

Jerri L. McLemore, daughter of Jerry R. and Betty J. McLemore, residing at 716 Sirocco Place in Bartlesville, Ok., graduated from the University of Kansas with a B.A. in Human Biology.

Ms. McLemore graduated with Highest Distinction from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and with departmental honors. She was elected into Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Chi Sigma Honorary Chemistry Fraternity, the University Scholars Program, and was selected as an outstanding tutor for KU's Supportive Educational Services.

Ms. McLemore will be attending medical school at the University of Kansas Medical Center this fall.

Her overall grade point average was 3.9. She was a member of the Biology Club, the Fencing Club, and in her Junior year, served as secretary for the Intertribal Alliance.

She is the daughter of Mrs. Nora Cox of Fairfax and is the neice of Mr. Richard Callaway and Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Tate also of Fairfax.

Monroe V. Burgess

Burgess Completes Marine Training

Marine Pfc. Monroe V. Burgess, son of Monroe and Ester Burgess of Okmulgee, has completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

During the 11 weeks training cycle, Burgess was taught the basics of battlefield survival. He was introduced to the typical daily routing that he will experience during his enlistment and studied the personal and professional standards traditionally exhibited by marines.

A 1979 graduate of Wilson High School, he joined the Marine Corps Reserves in July 1986.

Kim Hicks Performs Many Duties as CN Rodeo Queen

By Rita Williams

Kim Hicks, Creek Nation Rodeo Queen has displayed her ability to honor the crown by which she holds and to represent the Creek tribe with excellent horsemanship and dignity.

Kim has had the honors of participating in grand entrys at the Sac N Fox Rodeo in Stroud, Allen Ranch in Bixby, Anadarko Rodeo and will ride in the Region Eight Finals held in Tahlequah and the Seminole Rodeo.

Kims father, Louis Hicks, is the Region Eight Barrel Racing director and has the duties of setting the electric timer for the barrel racers. Kim can also be seen at every rodeo in the arena diligently helping her father to set the timers before the rodeo begins. She then dresses for the grand entry, and has had the honors of carrying the American Flag around the arena for everybody to honor.

Her duties not only call for her to be just a display as a queen but a worker, not being afraid of getting dirty, as she has had to walk in an arena of mud after a rain along with the rest of the cowboys.

Along with the crown, she also participates as a barrel racer and that calls for total concentration.

Watching this young lady in action can make the Creek Nation very proud of her and to this we say to Queen Kim a big, "MVTO".

KIM HICKS, RYAL COMMUNITY, THE 1987 CREEK NATION RODEO QUEEN, *has other duties during a Rodeo, in her representation of the Creek Nation, besides carrying the official flag of the Tribe. She also displays her horsemanship by helping the stockmen in the calf roping and steer wrestling events to run the calves out of the arena. Kim has worked with the CN Summer Youth Program and plans to return to school this fall.*

Ask Your Dentist. . .

HOW CAN TOOTH DECAY BE PREVENTED?

By Dr. Kim Leavenworth
CN Okmulgee Dental Clinic

Tooth decay is the most widespread, chronic disease of childhood and plagues our adult community. Effective methods to prevent it are available for children and adults.

The best way to prevent tooth decay is by having the community water supply fluoridated.

Many of our local communities in Creek Nation do not have fluoride in the water system; therefore, a fluoride rinse is strongly recommended. Children 6 years old and older, teenagers and adults should use a fluoride rinse daily. Fluoride rinses are available in most local drug stores and community department stores. Some product examples are ACT and Fluorigard.

Fluoride rinses are most effective when used daily after thoroughly brushing and flossing. After use, no food or drink should be taken for at least 30 minutes. Always follow directions given on the product label.

In simple terms, tooth decay can be prevented. Daily brushing, flossing and fluoride rinse are the answer to preventing tooth destruction and disease.

Creek Brothers Hard Work Pays Off-Now Award- Winning Musicians

STEVE AND PAUL BALDRIDGE, CREEK BROTHERS WHO ARE GIFTED MUSICIANS, *perform at many different functions and activities aside from state competitions. Here they are shown playing for the Creek elders at the CN Complex Dining Hall. The two also worked with the Maintenance Dept. this summer at Creek Nation through the Summer Youth Program.*

By Kathryn Bell

Winning awards for being excellent musicians is a way of life for Paul and Steven Baldridge of Okmulgee. The pair, 18-year Paul, who plays the guitar, and 15-year old Steven, a gifted banjo player, also find time, aside from a rigorous schedule of practicing and playing engagements, to work during the summer with the JTPA Summer Youtn Program at Creek Nation.

The two, the sons of Bob and Juanita Baldridge, were born and raised in Okmulgee. Father Bob is also a gifted singer, and had been a part of the Baldridge family musicians from this area. Recently, however, he and the two older sons and their 13-year old brother, Shawn (who has just started playing the bass guitar and fiddle) have formed their own group and are playing now throughout the state. "We just returned from Hugo, Oklahoma at the largest bluegrass and Gospel festival west of the Mississippi and me and the boys placed Third in the Band Category and my boys took First in the Banjo Competition," he said, adding, "this was a great accomplishment for my boys and myself because Steve and I just started singing together a few weeks before the Hugo festival, but it was their instrumental ability which pushed us to the top."

The two older boys have been playing for five years, according to their father, who related their first inspiration to compete - "At Langley, Oklahoma five years ago at a large music festival in which I and other members of the Baldridge family competed, I made the decision that I would have my three sons help their Dad on stage from that point on - so we set up in our back bedroom and night after night, hour after hour, we worked together on our music - I taught them with what I knew about music because we didn't have money for lessons - and they learned..." their father reflected of the hard work that was involved in the achievements they have accomplished today.

Among the notable honors Steve and Paul have received recently for their musical ability are; they were rated the best teenage musicians in an Assembly of God Church Competition within a five-state area. They represented their church, the First Assembly of God in Okmulgee, they were also proclaimed the "Best Instrumental Ensemble" in the South Central Region Competition in Dallas last June.

In April, they won a First Place in District Competition in Henryetta, followed by First Place in state competition in Oklahoma City. The brothers competed superbly at the National Teen Talent of the Assemblies of God Competition held in August, but didn't receive an award in the competition which featured hundreds of entries nationwide. However, this has not daunted their quest, goal or desire to play their music and to play it to the best of their God-given ability.

Although a great deal of their time is spent in practice and learning new material, they are typically teenage youths. In their "spare" time, they play sports and ride motorcyles - and perform.

Last summer, the family toured with the boys playing in Los Angeles and San Francisco - their all-time favorites of "Send the Light" and "Good-bye World, Good-bye." They have also played in Arkansas and Missouri.

The boys mother, Juanita, is a fullblood Creek and former employee of the Creek Nation. Both parents are natives of Okmulgee. They are, understandably, very proud of their sons. "We have been very supportive of our boys and we both feel that they possess a God-given talent and with their initiative and hard work - they will achieve alot with their music. God definitely gets the credit," said Mr. Baldridge.

The group is available for booking engagements. They can be reached by contacting Emanual Morgan at the Creek Nation Complex, 756-8700, ext. 255.

Super Heavyweight Powerlifting Title Goes to Oklahoma Creek

Kotcha Doonkeen, from Oklahoma City, Okla. took first place in the Super Heavyweight division and established two national records at the United States Powerlifting Federation's Open Powerlifting Championships held on the 16th of August 1987 at the Dallas-Ft Worth Marriott Hotel at Irving, Texas.

Kotcha, the lightest competitor in his division, weighed in at 285 lbs, only 10 pounds into the Super Heavyweight division. All competitors had to qualify for this prestigious meet which is sanctioned by the USPF and is a much sought after national event. Kotcha bench pressed 617 lbs. which was a national record and exceeded his USPF national record and YMCA national record of 601. His squat lift was 832 lbs. and his deadlift was 705 lbs. Therefor his lifts in the bench, squat and deadlift totaled a new national record of 2,155 lbs.

Among Kotcha's many awards in powerlifting he has taken first places in: The Texas Cup, the Oklahoma Open Bench and Deadlift (two consecutive years) the Sooner Invitational Championship, the Southwest Invitational Championship the North American Powerlifting Championship, the Central Oklahoma Powerlifting Championship, the Galveston Muscle Beach Powerlifting Championship, the First Annual Deadlift Championship, the First Annual Bench Press meet and the Oklahoma State Championship.

Kotch is well-known in powerlifting circles and has earned his place as a "World Class Powerlifter". He is a fitness consultant and is available for seminars and workshops on powerlifting and fitness. His parents are Al and Eula Doonkeen of Oklahoma City.

Kotcha is Creek/Seminole. He is from the Mekusukey band and from the Wind clan. His great-great-great Uncle was Ispahitcha, Chief of the Creeks. His mother is the former Eula Narcomey who in 1972 and 73 served as the Vice-Chief of the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma.

Letter From Evangelist Ernest Best. . .

"...he hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to comfort all that mourn, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. . ."
Isaiah 61:1-3

Last month, we were in a family camp. It is an unusual encampment on a beautiful lake in the north woods of this country. People came from several reservations and three large cities. I had taught and preached four long, intense sessions on this particular day. God had moved in the hearts of people. It was now late at night and we were gathered around a camp fire, singing choruses. The young people were seated near the fire and the older people were standing further away in the shadows.

The singing stopped as a young person gave her testimony of a crisis she had experienced during the past year. Then a voice from the shadows said, "My name is. . . My husband is dying with cancer. He wanted so much to be here, but he is too weak." She pours out agony of watching the one dearest to her die. We weep for her as she talks. A pastor prays for her and we all sing "Does Jesus Care?" She has four adult daughters and their children present, who have driven in from the cities. Her church has been praying for them. After the song, one daughter says, "I am . . ., . . . 's daughter. I've been away from the Lord for many years..." When she is finished, another daughter speaks. The grandchildren, who are teenagers, are weeping and other teens comfort them. We can see them in light of the fire. The Lord is moving deeply in our hearts. When the daughters are finished speaking, we sing "If Ever I Loved Thee, My Jesus 'Tis Now." The Lord is very near and precious to everyone present. The next morning the daughters sing, "Amazing Grace" and "Mansion Over the Hilltop" in the worship service.

Only our Lord can bind the broken hearted, give beauty for ashes, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. We see so very much suffering in our travels, both from physical sickness and as a direct result of sin. We see broken hearts, broken homes, and broken lives. Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is the only one who can meet every need if we only accept Him and redemption through His blood.

We have now begun our long tour for this year. We have had meetings at Chubb Lake, Minnesota, Black River Falls, Wisconsin, on the Winnebaqo reservation, and at Lac du Flambeau, Wisconsin. We also did door to door visitation on the Winnebago reservation. The Lord has blessed tremendously.

Our son, Gerald has provided special music and accompaniment inthe services, and taught and counseled the youth in the family camp. He has done the taping and duplicating of the services, and took care of the sound system for the Annual Christian Indian Gathering at Lac du Flambeau. It has been a real blessing to have him with us.

We praise God for those new people who have started supporting this ministry during the last month. We welcome you as co-laborers in reaching the Indian nations with the gospel of our Lord. We pray that God will bless you, as well as those who have faithfully helped us over the years. We appreciate your prayers very much also, as they are as vitally important as the finances.

Your missionaries to the
American Indians,
Bro. Ernest, Bennie & Jerry Best

While the study was nationwide, more than half of all Indian mothers reside in four states- Arizona, California, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

An Ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Establishing the Citizenship Roll and Making Provisions for Enrolling Tribal Citizens-

Section 100. Be it enacted by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in Council Assembled: ***Section 101.*** This Ordinance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be cited as the Citizenship Ordinance. ***Section 102.*** The 1979 Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be supreme in all matters of law relating to, arising under or in conflict with this Citizenship Ordinance, and is hereby cited in relevant part as follows: ***Article II. Section I.*** Each Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall have the opportunity for Citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. ***Article III. Section I.*** The Principal Chief shall appoint, subject to majority approval of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, a Citizenship Board comprised of five (5) citizens who shall be charged with the responsibility of the establishment and maintenance of a Citizenship Roll, showing degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian Blood based upon the final rolls prepared pursuant to the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), and other evidence as prescribed by ordinance. ***Section 2.*** Persons eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall consist of Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), and persons who are lineal descendants of those Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose name appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137); (except that an enrolled member of another Indian tribe, nation, band, or pueblo shall not be eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation). ***Section 3. A.*** All persons eligible for citizenship shall register as an applicant for citizenship; and, ***B.*** The Citizenship Board shall certify citizenship, and the declaration of citizenship may be affirmed at any time with the name of the individual being entered on the citizenship roll, and the persons being recognized as a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, provided that: ***I.*** The person is a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose names appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), or the person is a lineal descendant of the Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137); and is not an enrolled member of another tribe, nation, or pueblo; and ***(2)*** has made application to the Citizenship Board to become a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; ***(3)*** Except those persons who are Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137) shall be automatically included as citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. ***Section 4.*** Full citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be those persons and their lineal descendants whose blood quantum is one-quarter (1/4) or more Muscogee (Creek) Indian, hereinafter referred to as those of full citizenship. All Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood who are less than one-quarter (1/4) Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall be considered citizens and shall have all rights and entitlements as members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation except the right to hold office. ***Section 103.*** The Courts of the Muscogee Nation are hereby granted exclusive jurisdiction over all disputes relating to, arising under or in conflict with this Citizenship Ordinance.

TITLE I. CITIZENSHIP BOARD

Section 1001. Nominations and Confirmation. The members of the Citizenship Board shall be nominated by the Principal Chief by letter to the National Council. The National Council my at its discretion hold hearings on persons nominated. Majority approval is required for confirmation of appointments. Nominations not approved by majority vote shall be withdrawn by the Principal Chief. Nominations withdrawn shall be replaced by new nominations. ***Section 1002. Terms of Office.*** The members of the Citizenship Board as of January 1, 1981, shall draw lots to determine that each member serve a one, two, three, four, or five year term. Thereafter, the term of office shall be for five years, or in the event of a vacancy, for the balance of the term becoming vacant, with each term ending on June 1. ***Section 1003. Quorum.*** A Quorum of the Citizenship Board shall be three members. The existence of a quorum shall be certified by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or presiding officer, and thereafter the actions taken by the Board shall be legally binding. ***Section 1004. Officers.*** Officers shall be elected by majority vote of the Citizenship Board to hold a term of office for one year. Only members of the Citizenship Board shall be eligible to serve as officers of the Board. The officers of the Board shall include the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Secretary. ***Section 1005. Translation.*** If no Board member is present to translate Board actions into the Muscogee or Yuchi languages when actions involve a citizen who is not fluent in English, the Board shall appoint a translator.

Section 1006. Functional Management. The Citizenship Board, through the Chairman, shall be responsible for all functional management of staff assigned to or working with the Citizenship Board, and shall be the sole authority for the direction, management, and implementation of the functions of such staff. ***Section 1007. Administrative Management.*** The Citizenship Board, through the Chairman, shall be responsible for providing administrative management information necessary to the Executive Director, Office of the Administration, Executive Branch of Government of the Muscogee Nation, who shall implement the policies and procedures necessary to achieve the administrative management decisions of the Citizenship Board. ***Section 1008.***

Duties and Responsibilities. The duties and responsibilities of the Citizenship Board shall be: ***A.*** The establishment and maintenance of the Citizenship Roll; ***(1)*** On August 1, 1983 and every second year thereafter, the Citizenship Board shall certify the number of citizens enrolled for each District. ***B.*** Administration of the Citizenship Board staff to insure that: ***(1)*** All required records are properly kept in order; ***(2)*** Public components of the Citizenship Roll be available for public inspection. ***(3)*** All other components of the information received from citizens applying for enrollment shall be kept confidential; ***(4)*** Procedures established by the Citizenship Board for staff review of applications are strictly enforced; ***(5)*** Applicants providing all needed evidence are certified and enrolled; ***(6)*** Applicants not providing all needed evidence are granted: ***(a)*** The opportunity to submit needed evidence, and; ***(b)*** If necessary, the right to a hearing and appearance before the Citizenship Board; ***(c)*** Enforcement of the Constitutional right that "Each Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall have the opportunity for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation". ***Section 1009. Administrative Procedures.*** The Citizenship Board shall establish administrative procedures which insure that: **A.** Rules and regulations pertaining to applicants for citizenship shall be discussed in at least one public hearing, advertised in the Muscogee Nation News, prior to adoption by the Citizenship Board. **B.** Rules and regulations adopted shall be published in the Muscogee Nation News. ***C.*** At least seven days notice shall be granted prior to the convening of any hearing, notice to be served on the applicant by registered return mail. ***D.*** Applicants may represent themselves at any hearing, or they may designate a person to represent them. ***E.*** "Each Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall have the opportunity for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation." ***Section 1010. Appeals By An Applicant.*** After the applicant has exhausted the administrative remedies of the Citizenship Board, and a final determination not to enroll the applicant has been made, the applicant shall have the right to appeal in the following manner: ***A.*** An application for a Writ Mandamus to enroll the applicant may be filed in the tribal district court of the applicant or the tribal court for Okmulgee District. ***B.*** The applicant shall serve notice of the application for the Writ of the Mandamus to the Chairman or his authorized representative at the Citizenship Board Offices. ***C.*** Standard procedures of the tribal courts, including the right to appeal ultimately to the Supreme Court, shall govern all proceedings. ***Section 1011. Objections Against An Application Or Enrolled Citizen. A.*** Prior to enrollment of that person objected to, request a hearing by the Citizenship Board, and present evidence concerning the applicant's alleged descent from the Dawes Roll or their alleged Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood, or ***B.*** If not satisfied by the Citizenship Board's ruling in that hearing. ***I.*** An application for a Writ of Prohibition to order the Citizenship Board not to enroll the applicant may be filed in the tribal court of the applicant objected to or in the Okmulgee District. ***2.*** The objector shall serve notice of the application for the Writ of Prohibition to the Chairman or his authorized representative at the Citizenship Board office and by registered return mail to the applicant objected to. ***3.*** Standard procedures of the tribal courts including the right to appeal ultimately to the Supreme Court, shall govern all proceeding. ***C.*** After enrollment of that person objected to, request a hearing by the Citizenship Board to consider removing the objected person from the tribal roll, and present evidence concerning enrolled person's alledged descent from the Dawes Roll or their alleged Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian Blood, or ***D.*** If not satisfied by the Citizenship Board's ruling in that hearing. ***I.*** An application for the Writ of Mandamus to remove the objected person from the tribal roll may be applied for in the tribal district court of the person objected to, or in the Okmulgee District. ***2.*** The objector shall serve notice of the application for the Writ of Mandamus to the Chairman or his authorized representative at the Citizenship Board Offices, and by registered return mail to the person objected to. ***3.*** Standard procedures of the tribal courts, including the right to appeal ultimately the Supreme Court, shall govern all proceedings.

TITLE II. ESTABLISHING CITIZENSHIP ROLL.

Section 2001. Citizenship Roll. The Citizenship Roll of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is hereby established to include those Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood on the final rolls prepared pursuant to the Act of April 26, 1906, and those person hereafter enrolled pursuant to this Citizenship Ordinance. ***Section 2002. Enrollment Numbers.*** The enrollment numbers issued by the Citizenship Board under this Ordinance shall begin with and sequentially follow the number; Creek 12030. ***Section 2003. Information Upon Roll.*** The information upon the roll, and therefore open to inspection by any Citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, shall include all information categories upon the Census Cards of the final rolls prepared pursuant to the Act of April 26, 1906, and shall additionally contain the District of the enrolled citizen, as follows: Roll Number, Name, Age, Sex, Degree of Blood, Tribal Town, Father and Citizenship, Mother and Citizenship, District. ***Section 2004. Confirmation of Enrollment of Living Allottees.*** As provided by the Constitution in Article III, Section 3 (C), "persons who are Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906; (34 stat. 137) shall be automatically included as citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, "and the Citizenship board shall in all situations concerning these persons" ***A.*** Attempt to identify living allottees. ***B.*** Upon identification, obtain the information required to complete contemporary tribal enrollment files, such as the married names of the female citizens, the current address of the citizens, the current district of the citizen, or any information required by ordinance. ***C.*** Upon determining the current address of the citizen, mailing an executed Enrollment Card to the citizen.

TITLE III. APPLICANTS FOR ENROLLMENT.

Section 3001. ELIGIBILITY. "Persons eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall consist of Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), and persons who are lineal descendants of those Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose name appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137); (except that an enrolled member of another Indian tribe, nation, band, or pueblo shall not be eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation." ***Section 3002. INELIGIBILITY.*** The following persons shall not be eligible for citizenship: ***A.*** Persons who are not Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood, and ***B.*** Persons who are "an enrolled member of another Indian tribe, nation, band or pueblo". ***Section 3003. OPPORTUNITY.*** "Each Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall have the opportunity for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation", and in pursance thereof, the Citizenship Board shall: ***A.*** Utilize records of former Creek Nation Election Board, the former Creek Constitution Commission, the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other suitable records, to identify persons who are Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood. ***B.*** Utilize records of, and meeting with organizations of Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood to identify persons who are Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood. ***C.*** Contact by mail every person identified to the Citizenship Board as a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood, in order to provide adequate information and necessary forms for their application for citizenship. ***D.*** Upon the request of any application for citizenship, convene a hearing as an evidentiary proceeding to determine whether that person is a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood. In such proceedings, the burden of proof shall be upon the applicant, to demonstrate a preponderance of evidence that they are a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood. The applicant and any member of the Citizenship Board may subpeona witnesses. ***Section 3004. FORMS.*** All applications for enrollment must be printed upon the Enrollment Application Form approved by the Board, and all persons attempting to make application without utilizing the form shall be mailed or given an Enrollment Application Form. ***Section 3005. EVIDENCE OF LINEAL DESCENT.*** Evidence of lineal descent from a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls prepared pursant to the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137), shall be required from each applicant. Such evidence may include: ***A.*** Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) issued by the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs (said certificate to be checked against the records of the issuing BIA Agency to insure that no revocation has occurred). ***B.*** An unbroken and complete documentation of descent through birth certificates. ***C.*** Personal testimony from enrolled citizens, older than the applicant, to the Citizenship Board, describing a lineal descent from an enrolled person. ***D.*** Birth certificate indicating an enrolled person as a parent, the enrolled papers of the parent being sufficient evidence of the child's descent. ***E.*** When no other sufficient evidence can be produced court-approved Decree of Heirship which shows the relationship between the heir and the devisee to be a direct lineal relationship. ***Section 3006. EVIDENCE OF DEGREE OF MUSCOGEE (CREEK) INDIAN BLOOD. A.*** Evidence of Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood shall be based upon the Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood shown for all direct ancestors on the final rolls prepared pursuant to the Act of April 26, 1906 (34Stat. 137), based upon direct ancestors enrolled on previous tribal enrollment hereinafter listed, notwithstanding the lack of a listed Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood on such other enrollment.

NAME OF ROLL:	***ROLL CODE:***
1814 Creek Roll (Jackson Treaty Roll)	***Unknown B.I.A.***
1832 Creek Roll (Heads of Household) (Removal Treaty)	***Micro 1832***
1836-38 Creek Emigration Lists and Muster Rolls	***B.I.A. 299***
1834-1836 Creek Removal rolls and Land Registers	***B.I.A. 285 & 287***
Same-Index	***B.I.A. 285***
1857 Creek Old Settler Rolls	***FWFARC 100-064***
1857 Upper and Lower Creek Per Capita Rolls	***FWFARC 100023 & 100024***
1858 Creek Per Capita Rolls	***FWFARC 100025***
1869-70 Loyal Creek Claim Roll	***B.I.A. 687-8***
1867 Creek Annuity Payroll	***FWFARC 100598***
1870 Creek Orphan Roll	***B.I.A. 915***

(Enrollment Ordinance Continued on Next Page)

Citizenship Continued. . .

1885-1896 Creek Citizenship Commissison	*FWFARC 100166*
1890 Creek Roll (Tribal)	*FWFARC 100599*
1891 Creek Roll and Supplement	*FWFARC 100603*
Authenticated Index of 1890 Creek Roll	*FWFARC 100601*
1895 Creek Roll Tribal	*FWFARC 100604*
Authenticated Index of 1895 Creek Roll	*FWFARC 100602*
1904 Creek Self-Emigrant Roll	*B.I.A. 916*

B. In all cases the rolls provided pursuant to the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat.137) provide no Degree of Indian Blood or provide conflicting degrees for the direct ancestor and one or more of that ancestor's immediate family, and the applicant has proven descent: ***B.*** The applicant shall file a letter at the Office of the Citizenship Board requesting technical assistance in the determination of their Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian Blood. ***b.*** The applicant shall provide any and all information he or she has or can obtain about their direct ancestor and the immediate family of the ancestor and may thereafter submit any new information at any time to the Citizenship Board. ***c.*** The applicant shall be granted technical assistance by the staff of the Citizenship Board in the following manner: ***1.*** All relevant records shall be searched; ***2.*** Two copies shall be made of each relevant document identified as applicable. ***3.*** All copies shall be certified; ***4.*** One copy shall be held in the applicants file in the Citizenship Board offices; and ***5.*** One copy shall be delivered to the applicant. **C.** After receipt of relevant documents, the applicant shall have the right to request a hearing by the Citizenship Board to determine their degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood. ***D.*** The hearing shall be an evidentiary proceeding where the burden of proof shall be upon the applicant to establish a preponderance of evidence of their degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood. All certified copies of records in the applicant file shall automatically be introduced as evidence by the Chairman. The applicant and any member of the Citizenship Board may subpeona witnesses. The Board shall then determine the Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood. ***E.*** Expenditures of funds to purchase the Tribal Rolls above are hereby authorized for the 1980 and 1981 Fiscal years subject to appropriation by the National Council to the Citizenship Board. ***Section 3007. CHECKING FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT.*** Every applicant who indicates a degree of Indian blood other than Muscogee (Creek) Indian shall: ***A.*** Be advised by the Citizenship Board of the Constitutional prohibition of dual enrollment. ***B.*** Be requested to execute an Acknowledgement of other Indian blood, naming the tribe, nation, band, pueblo, Alaskan Native Village, or other federally recognized Indian entity (other than tribal towns of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation) descended from their degree of blood in that tribe or tribes, and their current enrollment status in that tribe or tribes; and the Citizenship Board shall request that the other tribes verify the acknowledgement. ***C.*** If enrolled, be requested to execute a Resignation of Enrollment in that other tribe for the purpose of being enrolled in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. ***D.*** If not enrolled, be requested to execute an Oath not to enroll in other tribe or tribes without 30 days written notice to the Citizenship Board of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; violation of that Oath to be punishable in the courts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by fine of not more than $500.00. ***Section 3008. CERTIFICATION.*** Certification of one or more applications shall require a majority vote of the Citizenship Board. If certification is denied, an applicant may request a hearing to reconsider the denial of certification. If said hearing results in maintaining the denial of certification by vote of the Citizenship Board, the applicant shall have standing to bring action under Section 1010 of this Citizenship Ordinance. ***Section 3009. CITIZEN ENROLLMENT CARDS AND FULL CITIZEN ENROLLMENT CARDS.*** A Citizen Enrollment Card or Full Citizen Enrollment Card shall be issued to each certified applicant for citizenship and to each living citizen on the 1906 Dawes Commission Roll. Failure to refuse or return the card within ten (10) days after receipt by the applicant shall be construed as affirmation enrollment. ***Section 3010. COPIES OF ENROLLMENT INFORMATION.*** The Citizenship Board shall provide copies of enrollment information to: ***a.*** The Election Board of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. ***b.*** At the request of the Citizen, to any person or entity. ***c.*** Upon subpeona, to the Courts of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. ***Section 3011. CITIZENS ADVISED OR RESPONSIBILITY IN CURRENT INFORMATION.*** The Citizenship Board shall advise each certified citizen in writing, in Muscogee, and in English of their responsibility to provide new information to the Citizenship Board any time they move or change their name.

TITLE IV. MAINTENANCE OF ROLL.

Section 4001. Change of Name. A legal change of name in the form of a court-ordered change of name or a change by reason of marriage, divorce or adoption, shall be entered upon the Citizenship Roll, and a new Citizen Enrollment Card issued. .***Section 4002. Change Of Address.*** Any change in address must be reported to the Citizenship Board, and the citizen's address in their enrollment records shall be update. ***Section 4003. Change In District.*** Any enrolled person who changes District, whether: ***a.*** A resident of a District of the Muscogee Nation who moves to a different district within the Muscogee, or moves outside Muscogee Nation and desires to change Districts, or; ***b.*** A non-resident of the Muscogee Nation who moves into a district of the Muscogee Nation other than the one already enrolled in, shall be changed in their District enrollment by the Citizenship Board (if properly reported by the citizen) and issued a new Citizen Enrollment Card. Changes of District shall not be made for (either) citizens who are not residents in Muscogee Nation and desire to change district. No changes in District shall be effective during any sixty (60) days immediately prior to a regular or special election. ***Section 4004. Add Social Security Number.*** A Social Security Number may be added to enrollment records at any time by the citizen, whether a living 1906 enrollee for whom the Citizenship Board does not have a social security number, or a child enrolled under this Citizenship Ordinance who later obtains a social security number. ***Section 4005. Deceased Enrolled Persons.*** The Citizenship Board shall keep a file of the name, number and date of death of any deceased enrolled person reported by any citizen and verified by the staff of the Citizenship Board. ***Section 4006. Removal Of Names From The Citizenship Board Roll.*** The Citizenship Board shall have the power to remove the names of persons from the Citizenship Roll of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, by: ***A.*** Designating a cause to remove from the roll, said cause hereby limited to: ***1.*** Proof that the person is not Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood, **2.** Proof that the person is an enrolled member of another Indian tribe, nation, band or pueblo, ***3.*** Proof that fraud, bribery, or misrepresentation were utilized at any stage in securing enrollment, ***4.*** Voluntary resignation from citizenship by an enrolled citizen, **5.** Order by a tribal court to remove a name from the Citizenship Roll, ***B.*** Notification of the otherwise enrolled citizen that cause for their name to be removed has been designated and that they have thirty (30) days to request a hearing if any cause other than resignation or court order is involved. **C.** Holding a hearing if requested by the person against whom cause has been designated. The hearing shall be an evidentiary proceeding where the burden of proof shall be upon the Citizenship Board to establish a preponderance of evidence that the designated cause is true and sufficient to remove the person from the Citizenship Roll. All certified copies of records in the citizen's file shall automatically be introduced by the Chairman. The citizen and any member of the Citizenship Board may subpoena witnesses. The decision of the Citizenship Board may be reviewed by the tribal courts as provided by this Ordinance.

TITLE V. DEFINITIONS.

Section 5001. Affirmation Of Enrollment. Means the acceptance of or failure to refuse the Citizen Enrollment Card within ten (10) days of receipt by the Citizen. ***Section 5002. Citizen*** means an enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood. ***Section 5003. Certification*** means the action or decision by the Citizenship Board to place the name of an applicant upon the Citizenship Roll of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. ***Section 5004. Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian Blood*** means the ratio, expressed as a fraction, of Muscogee (Creek) Indian Blood to all other Indian and non-Indian blood of the citizen, based upon evidence supplied from the 1906 Final Roll or other rolls listed in this Ordinance, and determined by averaging the Degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood of their direct ancestors, utilizing the base unit of 4/4ths (four fourths) as equal to a person who is a full blood Muscogee (Creek) Indian, and the base unit of 0/4th (no fourths) as equal to a person who has no Muscogee (Creek) Indianblood. ***Section 5005. Enrolled Member Of Another Indian Tribe,*** nation, band or pueblo means any person who is listed upon the Citizenship Roll or Membership Roll of any federal recognized Indian tribe, Nation, band, rancheria, Alaskan Native Village, or Pueblo. Enrolled member of another tribe, nation, band or pueblo shall not mean any person enrolled for judgement as descendant of another tribe, nation, band, rancheria, Alaskan Native Village, or pueblo in its distribution of a claim against the United States (unless said judgement enrollment constitutes, according to the tribal ordinance of other tribe involved, tribal citizenship or membership); or any persons documenting their other tribal affiliations for the purpose of quaranteeing their descendants' rights in such other tribes. ***Section 5006. Final Rolls As Provided By The Act of April 26, 1906*** (34 Stat. 137) means the entire set of rolls established persuant to that Act, including the final rolls of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and the tribes of Seminoles, Cherokees, Choctaws, and Chickasaws, in order to provide for the enrollment of any Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood descended from a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood enrolled in another tribe in 1906 for the purpose of selecting lands. ***Section 5007. Full Citizenship*** means "those persons and their lineal descendants whose blood quantuam is one-quarter (1/4) or more Muscogee (Creek) Indian," as determined under this Citizenship Ordinance. ***Section 5008. Lineal Descendant*** means child, grandchild, great-grandchild, great-great-grandchild or any further descent in that sequence, LINEAL DESCENDANT shall not mean any foster child or adopted child (unless such is independently Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood) whose adoption has not been approved by the Courts of the Muscogee Nation, and said jurisdiction is hereby reserved from the Courts of the Nation until such time as an ordinance is adopted to govern such actions. ***Section 5009. Muscogee (Creek) Indian By Blood*** means any person listed upon the Final Rolls of 1906 and enrolled with a listed quantum of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood; or not enrolled with a separate racial status listed in lieu of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood (e.g., Cherokee, White, Spanish, etc.) notwithstanding a tribal town citizenship for such person; and including such other Indians by blood of other tribes adopted into the Muscogee Nation prior to the Final Roll (whether Shawnee, Natchez, or other tribal affiliation) who were enrolled or their descendants enrolled as Muscogee (Creek) Indians in the Final Rolls of 1906. ***Section 5010. Registration*** means the act of filling out proper forms under this Citizenship Ordinance and forwarding the forms in completion to the Citizenship Board.

Section 5011. Resignation Of Enrollment. Any enrolled citizen of the Muscogee Nation may resign their enrollment in the Muscogee Nation by: ***A.*** Presenting their enrollment card to the Citizenship Board. ***B.*** Executing forms prescribed by the Citizenship Board which indicate that the resignation is voluntary. **C.** Resignations of enrollment shall become effective thirty (30) days after the enrollment card is returned, or twenty (20) days after required forms are executed, whichever is later. ***Section 5012. Fraudulent Use Of Muscogee Nation Enrollment Cards. A.*** The fraudulent use of any Muscogee Nation Enrollment Card, either as personal identification, to register to vote, to become eligible for any benefit, or for any other fraudulent purpose, by any person other than the enrolled person to whom the enrollment was issued or by their authorized representative, or by any person who has resigned their enrollment in the Muscogee Nation, is a violation of tribal law. ***B.*** Reports concerning violations of this section may be referred to the tribal Lighthorse Administration. **C.** General Counsel to the Muscogee Nation is authorized to prosecute offenders of this section in the tribal courts of the Muscogee Nation. ***Enacted by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council on this 26th day of July, 1985. In Witness Whereof, the Presiding Officer of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council has hereto attached his signature. Carney Roberts, Speaker Muscogee (Creek) National Council.***

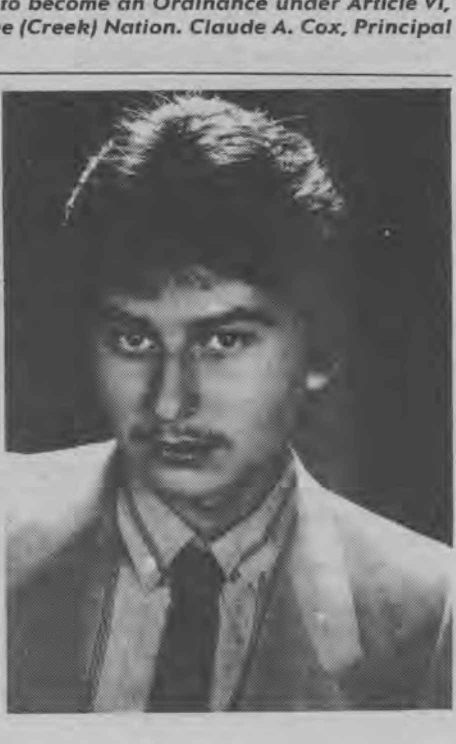
CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, certify that the foregoing is a true extract from the minutes of Muscogee (Creek) National Council, comprised of fifteen members with fourteen members attending this meeting on the 26th day of July, 1985, and that the above is in conformity with the provisions therein adopted by a vote of Thirteen In Favor, None Against, No Abstentions, and that said Ordinance has not been rescinded or amended in any way and that the above is the signature of the Speaker of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council. Tina Burgess, Acting Recording Secretary.

APPROVAL

I, the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation hereby affix my signature this 2 day of August, 1985 to the above authorizing it to become an Ordinance under Article VI, Section VI of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Claude A. Cox, Principal Chief Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

National Student Assoc. Picks Eddie Screechowl



Eddie Screechowl has been selected for membership in the Outstanding College Students of America, a national organization dedicated to the recognition of scholastic achievements and leadership qualities among the top U.S. college students.

OCSA'S activities include providing scholarship awards for these students and bringing their distinguished status to the attention of leading U.S. corporations and colleges.

Eddie, the son of Ed and Janice Screechowl, Sapulpa, is a junior psycology major at the University of Oklahoma.

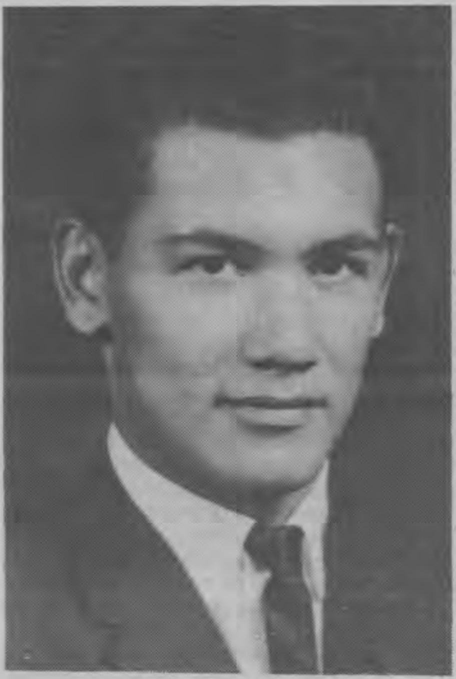
CN Citizenship Board Requests Information From Tribal Members

The following list of Muscogee (Creek) members should contact the Creek Nation Citizenship Board concerning their enrollment for such information as address correction, additional information, incomplete application, etc. The Citizenship office is located in the main Administrative Bldg. at the Tribal Complex. Georgeann DeLaune, Citizenship clerk, will assist you in any matter concerning you membership. You may contact her at 918/756-8700 or write P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447 in regard to this matter.

Addington, Linda Carol (Tims)
Alexander, Gerald D.
Alford, Davene Susie (Cornell)
Allen, Lillie Beatrice (White)
Bennett, Betty Geneva (Webb)
Benard, Bernadine Beth
Betts, Jeremy Lon
Black, Renee Elizabeth (Bantista)
Black, Abra Louis
Black Doren (Bantista)
Bland, Melissa Juan
Brancecum, Clarence Robert
Brewington, Patricia
Bridges, John Benjamen
Brown, Evelyn Turnbow
Brown, Paul Douglas
Bruner, Basil Thomas
Bruner, Luella (for Gina M.)
Bruner, Miles Henry Jr.
Davis, Nellie C.
Davis, Tommy J.
Davis, Venus Ann
Davis, Catherine Carmen
Doyle, Julie Anne
Duncan, Debra Lorain (Barlow)
Dyer, Darla Jo (Crenshaw)
Edmerson, Amos James Jr.
Enloe, Joy (Franklin)
Estrada, Rose (for Robert M.)
Eubanks, Earl
Cardullo, Ramona Francine
Case, Timothy Roy
Chalakee, Johnnie Lou
Charles, Darnell Cornelious
Chavez, Margaret Rhea (Wilburn)
Coachman, Patsy Mae
Cochran, Bessie Maudine
Colbert, Ostenkit
Cole, Michael E.
Cole, Marylynn Estelle
Coleman, Benjamin David
Compton, Michael Blake
Conrad, Marty Beaver
Cosar, Robert Eugene
Crenshaw, Doris Ann
Factor, Nona (for Wesley/Leona)
Fields, James Dean Jr.
Fields, Sharon Lynn (Bullet)
Francis, James Anderson
Francis, Emma (for children)
Francis, Jerry Robert
Francis, Dianne Susan (Alford)
Goode, Walter Howard Jr.
Hackler, Pearl Delores (Funchess)
Bunkle, Glenda (Hargis)
Harjo, Edward Lee
Hammons, Charles Billy
Harjo, Joanna Rose (Wolf)
Hawkins, Daniel
Heiner, Karen R. for (children)
Hinkle, David Michael
Jamerson, Betty Ann (Ralston)
Johnson, Burnis Erevly
Jones, Denise Marie
Kellie, Roberta
Kirkpatrick, Terry Lynn
Knight, Michael Dewayne
Little Bear, Michael
Kutzner, Kisha Christine
Lancaster, Christopher Ray
Lawson, Debbie Michelle
Leach, Ruth Ann
Lee, Billy Gene
Lend, Benjamin
Long, Diana Lee (Mulley)
Lunsford, Helen S.
MacDonald, Denise Lorraine
Mackey, Linda Lee (Casey)
Mahoney, Asil Pete
Marshall, Montrey
Marsoobian, Michael Anthony
Masingale, Scott Wayne
Maxwell, Daniel Edward
McConnell, Michael Steven
McCoy, Jeffrey Michael
McGirt Wynema
McGuffey, Darrell Jack
McIntosh, Antonio Donyell
McPhail, Shawne Kelley (Nixon)
Mitchell, Paula Georgette (Weins)
Nash, Natalee Ellen
Nixon, Carolyn (Lambert)
Norwood, Carmel LaJune (Green)
Nunn, Dennis Theodore
Ohadi-Hamadani, Mary C. (Coleman)
Owen, Jack Ivan
Patterson, Margaret Ann (Moore)
Perryman, Nathaniel Josiah
Peyketewa, Marion Ruth (Francis)
Pittman, Ronald Dusty
Proctor, Juanita Joy
Putman, Hershel Wayne
Putman, Scotty Ray
Raudon, Kimberly Dawn
Riley, Sherri Renee
Romig, Larry Gene
Rosin, John Leo Jr.
Salmon, Cynthia Lyn
Sam, James Lee
Sampson, Samsoche Gutchv
Sanders, Richard Dale Jr.
Scott, Sammie
Scranton, Carol (Curtis)
Shirley, Linda Marie
Sisler, Gary Robert
Smith, Shanon, LaShele
Styles, Twila Lee (Bridges)
Tiger, Eugene Steve
Thomas, Homer Rudolph
Tecumseh, Nero Louis
Theus, Londale Marrico
Tiger, Pamela Faye
Tiger, Rita Ann
Trammell, Inas Lena (Day)
Tucker, Richard Virgil
Wallace, Michael Allen
Ward, Beaver Sonny
Washington, Dion Blake
Watashe, Christopher Dean
Watts, Raymond Scott
Wilson, William Bert
Woltering, Brenda Sue (Case)

Family Reunion Set September 12

A reunion of the following families will be held on September 12 south of Henryetta on Salem Rd. (turn north at Ryal School exit): Jacob Long, Lucinda McKellop, Willie Sumka, Lewis Soweka, Bennie Taylor, Sarah Hicks, Annie Bear, Ella Hicks, and all the Charlie Lena families. There will be volleyball, horseshoes, sack races, etc., and a prize for the oldest, youngest and the one traveling the farthest. Starting around 9:30. Friends invited.



Myron Edward Taylor

Native Son Accepts IHS Assignment

Myron Edward Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Junius J. Taylor, Muskogee, received and accepted nomination and promotion to Deputy Director, Data Systems Policies and Data Systems, Policies and Management, Division of Indian Health Service in Rockville, Maryland, the national headquarters.

Mr. Taylor attended the Chilocco Public School, Chilocco, Oklahoma, and is a graduate of the Newkirk High School (1964). Earned a B.A. Degree from the Oklahoma State University in 1968. His major fields of study were: Business Admistration and Accounting. Since graduation, he has participated in numerous In-service training workshops and seminars at the graduate level.

His experiencial and employment background include: Conoco Oil, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Amaco Oil, and Andrew Skeeter Consultants. He entered the federal service in 1984 at Billings, Montana as Data Systems Analyst Supervisor, Division of Indian Health Services.

Myron is a grandson of the late Louis Alexander McGilbra, Light Horseman (U.S. Marshall. Indian Territory, now McIntosh County, Oklahoma) who was appointed in 1905 by Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States. A great honor and distinction revered by his family. Myron is a member of the Wind Clan and Hickory Ground, and Tuskgee tribally.

His immediate family consists of his wife, Bonnie Jean, the former Bonnie Jean Tousley of Newkirk, and two sons Robert Edward and John Forrest.

Okmulgee Seniors to Sell Handmade Quilt for $75

The Okmulgee Senior Citizens have a handmade quilt for sale. The pattern is "Road to Oklahoma." Price is set at $75. Contact, Juanita Checotah at 918-756-9305.

Benefit Gospel Singing

A benefit Gospel Singing will be held Sept. 13th for Almer Berryhill and Vernona Hammer-Smith. The singing will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Little Cussetah Methodist Church. All singers and listeners are welcomed.

Victoria Lynn Kelly

U.S. Basketball Award Goes to Creek Student

The United States Achievement Academy announced recently that Victoria Lynn Kelly has been named a United States National Award winner in Basketball. This award is a prestigious honor very few students can ever hope to attain. In fact, the Academy recognizes less than 10% of all American high school students.

Victoria who attends Okmulgee Middle School was nominated for this National Award by Mrs. Sheryl Shipley, who is the Lady Mustang's Basketball Coach and Health Instructor at Okmulgee Middle School.

Victoria will appear in the United States Achievement Academy Offical Yearbook which is published nationally.

"Recognizing and supporting our youth is more important than ever before in America's history. Certainly United States Achievement Academy award winners should be congratulated and appreciated for their dedication to excellence and achievement," said Dr. George Stevens, Executive Director of the Academy.

The Academy selects USAA winners upon the exclusive recommendation of teachers, coaches, counselors or other school sponsors and upon the Standards of Selection set forth by the Academy. The criteria for selection are a student's academic performance, interest and aptitude, leadership qualities, responsibility, enthusiasm, motivation to learn and improve, citizenship, attitude and cooperative spirit, dependability and recommendation from a teacher or director.

Victoria is the daughter of Eugene and Rose Kelly. Her grandparents are the late Mr. and Mrs. Washington Kelly of Henryetta, Ok. and the late Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Lasley of Hanna, Ok.

Twin Hills Community Meeting

The Twin Hills Indian Community will be having a Food Sale and their monthly meeting on September 8. The Food Sale will begin approximately 6 p.m. with the meeting after the Food Sale. The community has invited the Creek Nation Council representatives, Principal Chief, and Second Chief to the meeting.

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"Continuing Progress For The Muscogee People"

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 9 September/October 1987 Issue 20 Pages

Creek Tribal Court Overrules CN Election Board Certification

By Helen Chalakee

The Creek Nation Citizenship Board certified the number of Creek citizens enrolled for each district on August 1 as called for in the Creek Constitution. Using this population count, the Creek Election Board then certified twenty-one Council Representative positions open for the October 24 tribal election.

This certification came about based on an opinion by tribal attorney Sherrin Watkins that Creek membership who did not actually live within specified districts, even though they retain voting privileges, should be counted in the apportionment.

The Creek Constitution states, Article VI, section 2: There is to be one representative for each district and one (1) additional representative for each 1,000 district members. One of the authorities she based her opinion on was 13 U.S.C. 141, which states: Apportionment of representatives for the purpose of Congressional representation is based on the population within a state, and not on declared domicile, except for military personnel abroad.

Watkins' application of law to the facts stated, "Absentee voters are not district citizens except for purpose of having a right to vote for the purpose of electing National officers.

In the past, absentees were included in the district population count because the Citizenship Board lacked the technology to accurately separate the resident population from the non-resident.

Creek Nation recognizes the right of Creek people to vote in National elections, even though they are legal residents elsewhere. This recognition of the right to vote does not automatically carry with it the rights of the resident citizens. The census or enumeration for apportionment purposes should be based on citizens actually living within a district. These are citizens who are actually eligible for services which the tribe provides and who need active representation to get their share of services within their district. These people are automatically citizens of the district in which they live, that is, district citizens.

Watkins' went on to explain that citizens enrolling from outside the Nation's boundaries are also enrolled citizens but can specify or refuse to specify any district as they see fit. Under the Creek Constitution, they cannot be denied the right to vote in Creek National elections. However, the situation is analogous to a student or a serviceman from another state being present in Oklahoma for school or service-connected reasons. Such a person would not be enumerated in the federal census for their home state for purpose of apportionment for federal representation, but would be included in the Oklahoma census for Oklahoma representation, but would be able to vote by absentee ballot in their home state.

The attorney's conclusion was that the apparent reason that a person can vote in one place but be enumerated in another place is to give the locations having the most actual residents more representation.

She also pointed out, this is because whether intending to stay in a location permanently or not, while there, a person is a drain on that district's resources which only representation can offset. If any citizen or district is harmed by the more accurate method of apportionment they have access to tribal courts for relief. I do not see how such harm can occur if the new method does not disenfranchise anyone and cannot reduce the amount of funds or service available to any district.

This rule had not been applied to previous apportionments for elections. Also, an inaccurate population count had been submitted in previous elections by the former Election Board clerk, Elaine Waller, causing the number of representatives to be escalated to twenty-eight members.

Georgeann DeLaune, the current Citizenship Board clerk, explained the Citizenship board had installed a computer a year before she was employed, but that it was insufficiently programmed. She said she had found duplications, both on application forms as well as stored in the computer. "Some people had re-enrolled because they had changed names, when all they needed to do was to submit a name change on their original application," she said.

Delaune also said, "Under the manuel operation, if a file couldn't be found it appeared the clerk would just re-enroll them." She said when the new D BASE 3 program was installed, it kicked out all the duplications.

Delaune has an associate degree in word processing and has been thoroughly trained in computer technology. Working with the programmer, she helped design the new system that has the capability to call up names, enter corrections and all duplications are wiped out. She said each enrollment now has been individually checked, updated and corrected. Because of duplicates and deceased being deleted from the total count, representation was automatically reduced from certain districts.

Presently, twenty-eight members sit on the National Council. For the past two year term, the Council has appropriated well over a quarter of a million dollars for their salaries and operating expenses from Creek tribal funds. The tribal funds are funds belonging to the tribe from judgement awards, mineral and land leases, etc. from which the tribe has invested the principle into the U.S. Treasury and collects only the accrued interest.

(Continued on Next Page)

THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR WALKING" *in reference to the many miles Steve Wilson has travelled in behalf of obtaining favorable federal legislation for Indian elderly was written on the card along with a pair of lizard skin boots from the Okmulgee Senior Citizens. The boots were presented to him recently at a dinner at the CN Complex for all Creek elderly by Okmulgee Indian Community Chairman Bernice Hale and Principal Chief Cox in appreciation of Wilson's efforts. Wilson is the manager of the CN Community Research and Development Program. He serves on the Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging and has recently been elected to the National Board on Aging, being the first Indian to serve in that capacity. Chief Cox told the audience of Wilson's many involvements with organizations which have been supportive of the new legislation.*

Newtown Co-ed Volleyball-

The Newtown Indian Methodist Young Adult Class is sponsoring a co-ed volleyball tournament Saturday, November 7. First 12 church teams. $20 entry fee. Trophies will be awarded. Deadline is Tuesday, November 3. Contact Vickie Watashe or Minnie Wolf 756-8700.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $12.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements.Address P.O Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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MEDIA TECHNICIANS
Elliot Barnett
Rita Williams

LETTERS. . .

Dear Sir:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chief Cox and the Creek Nation Administration for services well done in regard to the replenishing of my home here in Checotah.

The services rendered by Mr. Yahola Townsend, housing superintendent, is excellent. He, along with Mr. George Foreman done a terrific job. They are considerate and patient in their job performance. Not only in the carpentry work but also as a representative of the Creek Nation.

All of the contracting staff made it a pleasure and the results of all their work is very satisfactory as well as my extended gratefulness for being able to get this work done.

Again I thank you for all that has been done to make my home liveable and comfortable.

Sincerely,
Noah Paul Jackson

To The Creek People

As bells toll across America, celebrating the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution, I can't help but feel pride, thankfulness, confusion and threatened all in one mind.

It's a blessing indeed to live in America. After all, we were here before it was America. But war after war, the Indian has shed blood and displayed fierce patriotism for America.

History doesn't begin to tell "Our" story, but under this great document, the U.S. Constitution, the American Indian has suffered loss of entire nations, tribes, and families; and for 148 years we weren't even allowed to vote. We've lost our entire continent to white greed allowed under this same great document. But they're not through with us yet.

The tolling bells should awaken us to the stark cruelty and realities that threaten the very existence of what's left of the once mighty Creek Nation of Alabama and Georgia.

Every ring should serve as a reminder to fight daily for the welfare of our tribe. For only as a tribe or Indian Nation can we exist as Indians.

It is election time once again and time to cast a vote for leadership. The daily battles for existence is carried on by our Chief. Since 1972, the Creek Nation has made tremendous progress. It is still an infant nation, struggling to pull itself up and stand strong. We can't afford a break in this progress, so let's think of the Creek Nation as a whole and vote for what's best in this crucial time.

Under the leadership of Chief Cox, the Creek Nation has earned the respect of Gov. Bellmon, and high officials in Washington, D.C.,.. We need him another term. Let's all vote.

-Note Of Thanks-

Thanks to all of you Chief Cox and the staff who made it possible for our nice home. If not, we would be still living in our old shack.

We are grateful for our house and you.
Charley and Ruby Parkerson

CREEK TRIBAL COURT CONTINUED. . .

It has been agreed that twenty-eight representatives have caused a drain on the tribal resource. Legislation was recommended last year to reduce the number of representatives but was never enacted to be put to the vote of the people because it could not be agreed on how many the reduction should be.

When the twenty-one positions were announced by the Election board, a petition was filed in tribal court by five council members. Frank Kamp, Mickey Primeaux, Alexander Thomas, Kenneth Childers and Sandy McIntosh all filed the petition as individual tribal members against the CN Election Board and the board members individually and against Principal Chief Cox to temporarily restrain the election. The Election Board is an Administrative Commission with the members appointed by the Chief with the approval of the National Council. The tribal court did not recognize the injunction but did conduct a hearing based on the petition.

Supreme Court Justice Michael Flud, Justice Elliot Howe and District Court Judge Patrick Moore ruled in favor of the petition and ordered re-certification be a combination of the district count and absentee count reflected in the citizenship Board's 1987 bi-annual report.

Tribal court also ruled that an additional day be included to the three day filing period which was in progress at that time. The day was set for Wednesday, September 30, for candidates to file for the five additional seats.

As it now stands, there are twenty-six seats open to the election. The following candidates have filed for the respective positions:

NSU Student Association To Hold Benefit Pow Wow

The NSU Student Association will hold a benefit Pow Wow October 17 from 6:00 p.m til midnight at the Tahlequah Community Building, 300 W. 1st. behind the Dept. of Human Services. Head Singer, Jack Anquoe; Head Man Dancer, Robbie Anquoe, Head lady Dancer, Treva Conner; M.C., Jake Chanate; Arena Director, NASA Members and Many Tribes U.S.A. Arts and crafts are welcome. Bring your own chairs. No alcoholic beverages allowed. Security will be provided.

OU Indian Student Assoc. To Sponsor Pow Wow, Nov. 7

Activities: 5:30-Supper, 6:30-Gourd Dance, 8:00-Grand Entry. Head Man Dancer, Nacona Burgess; Head Lady Dancer, Patty Saumaunt; Head Singer, Milard Clark; Arena Director, David Ade; Emcee, Hammond Motah; Princess, Lavonne Good Blanket. For more information contact:American Indian Student Association sponsor, Glenn Solomon. Public Welcome. Lloyd Noble Center, Highway 9 at Jenkins exit in Norman, Oklahoma. (405) 325-3163. Open Drum-All Singers Welcome.

CANDIDATES FOR OCTOBER 24, 1987 CREEK NATION ELECTION

*** Incumbent**
**** Unopposed**

PRINCIPAL CHIEF
* Claude A. Cox
Patrick B. Bevenue
Billy S. Fife

SECOND CHIEF
Earl Wheeler
* R. Perry Beaver
Floyd Jones
Robert Hardridge

OKMULGEE DISTRICT
Seat A
Harvey Gilroy
Paulette Rogers
Seat B
* Leah J. Stacy
Lucille Factor
Seat C
* Barton Williams
Gary Hudgens
Seat D
George Almerigi
Juanita Field Dunson
Seat E
* Anthony W. Hale Sr.
Thomas P. Berryhill

MUSKOGEE DISTRICT
Seat A
* Helen L. Chupco
Rosalie Tiger
Chester Fields
Seat B
**Harley Gene Little Sr.

TULSA DISTRICT
SEAT A
Donna Freeman Rhoades
William Dowdy
Seat B
* Jerry Wilson
* Patricia A. Clark
Seat C
** Larry S. Bible
Seat D
**Kenneth L. Childers
Seat E
** Irene Jacobs Cleghorn

HUGHES DISTRICT
Seat A
* Robert E. Buck
Billy Ray Smith
Seat B
* Jonas Dunson
James Wesley
Seat C
* Johnson Buck
Frances A. Long

WAGONER DISTRICT
Seat A
**Alexander Thomas
Seat B
** Thurston Primeaux

CREEK DISTRICT
Seat A
* Roy Bear
Lee Roy Underwood
Seat B
Ann Rolland Holder
Ed Porter Frye
T.G. Jerry Riley
Seat C
Michael Bigler
Clarence Cloud

OKFUSKEE DISTRICT
Seat A
** Clyde Johnson
Seat B
Carney Roberts
Seat C
** Dorothy Miller
Billy J. Burden

McINTOSH DISTRICT
Seat A
**Tommie S. Newton
Seat B
**Frank Kamp
Seat C
* Sandy McIntosh
* Daniel Barnett
Johnathan M Tiger

Candidate Information For October 24 Tribal Election-

Candidates are listed in the order they filed their declarations of candidacy with the Election Board:

PRINCIPAL CHIEF

Candidate for Principal Chief

Claude A. Cox

To The Creek Voters:

Your vote of confidence for me will be greatly appreciated for another term as your Principal Chief. When I decided to run for a fifth term, it made me even more excited about the potential for the next four years.

Over the past four years we have felt the federal 'crunch' in several areas of funding. It has taken literally staying on top of the situation, negotiating contracts and looking for new funding sources, but more importantly maintaining a tight control over what we do receive to keep service standards at a maximum level.

The burden has always been on the Indian people to educate and advise the non-Indian community, the federal and state agencies and the Congress concerning our lawful rights, as well as our needs. Creek Nation tribal government has shouldered the responsibility of knowing the needs of our people and taking care of our own. Because of our unique tribal status, we contract directly with the federal government. That means we have to compete with other service agencies for the federal dollars. Non-Indian agencies could care less how much of their designated funding finds its way to the Indians. That's why it is very important to keep our tribal government intact.

My opponents have struck out on what they call issues that I want to clear up right now. First of all, I must say we do have a personnel policy enforced by the personnel department here at Creek Nation. It is ridiculous to even suggest a tribal government as large as Creek Nation with approximately 550 employees, both in the government and tribal enterprises, could operate without personnel guidelines and they are open for inspection upon request.

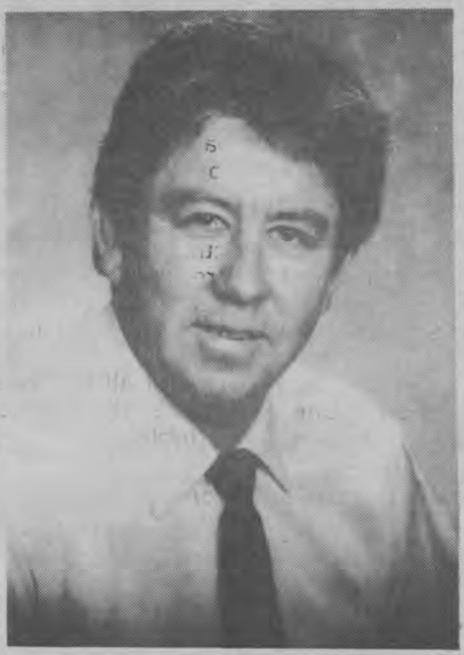
Secondly, the implication that we have an overload of non-Indians working at Creek Nation is not true. We have at this time approximately 97% Indian employment. The only time there was a non-Indian overload was when my opponent was working for Creek Nation as director of Tribal Affairs. During that period of time, he hired more non–Indians than any other director. Non-Indians ran the planning department and economic development, as well as the Agri-business which were all under his direct supervision. Now, he is campaigning he will give preference to Indian employment.

He also stated he worked ten years for the Creek Nation. That's true; however, because of his inability to carry out management functions and tribal hiring policies all his programs had to be restructured. There was no economic development and the Agri-business was about to go under. Whether this was intentional or incompetence, I don't know. But after he left employment with the tribe, economic development such as the CN Bingo moved at a rapid pace and the Agri-business is now making money!

As you read this article, it is only fitting you do so with an eye toward the future. We are a proud Nation with a strong government. We must look toward the goals we can achieve and have the courage to find the opportunities to do so.

Let's continue progress for the Muscogee People. With your continued support for me as your Principal Chief, together we can keep Creek Nation the #1 tribe in the United States.

Claude A. Cox
Candidate for Re-election
Muscogee (Creek) Principal Chief



Candidate for Principal Chief

Billy Sunday Fife

Billy Sunday Fife announces his candidacy for the Office of Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Fife is the son of James and the late Carmen Griffin Fife of Dustin, Ok. He is the grandson of the late Rev. Sunday Fife and the late Louisa Lowe Fife. Bill and his wife Mary have two children, Jeffrey and Cinda and they reside in rural Weleetka.

Fife is 21/32 Creek. a Viet Nam veteran, a graduate of Chilocco Indian School, Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, and Okla. State University Technical Branch, Okmulgee. He is presently employed with the United States Postal Service in Okmulgee. He has served as a professional consultant for various Indian organizations and worked as a part-time teacher in local public schools. In addition, he is a board member of the Creek Indian Memorial Association (Creek Council House Museum), is a member of the Creek Nation Rodeo Club and is currently serving on the Johnson-O'Malley State Committee for Indian Education.

Employed with the Creek Nation for ten years, Fife has experience in the administration of federal grants and contracts and management of tribal operations. While employed with the tribe, he worked closely with the National Council, with organized tribal communities and with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Fife has testified before U.S. Congressional Committees considering Indian legislation, before the Federal Bar Association on behalf of the tribe and

(Continued on Next Page)

PRECINCT LOCATIONS

-TULSA DISTRICT-

Tulsa- Indian Health Care Resource Center, 915 South Cincinnati.
Glenpool- Glenpool Community Center (North Side), 94 W. 145th St.

-WAGONER-

Coweta- Golden Agers Center, S.
Coweta- Golden Agers Center, South Broadway.

-MUSKOGEE-

Muskogee- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 South Virginia.

-McINTOSH-

Eufaula- Old Indian Clinic, 7024 Forrest.
Checotah-Creek Nation Day Care, 800 S.E. 6th.
Ryal- Old Ryal School.
Hanna- Hanna School

-HUGHES-

Holdenville- Community Action Center, 416 E. Poplar.
Wetumka- Indian Community Center.
Dustin- Senior Citizens Center.

-OKFUSKEE-

Okemah- Creek Nation Day Care, 412 W. Broadway.
Weleetka- Indian Community Center, 620 South Chickasaw.

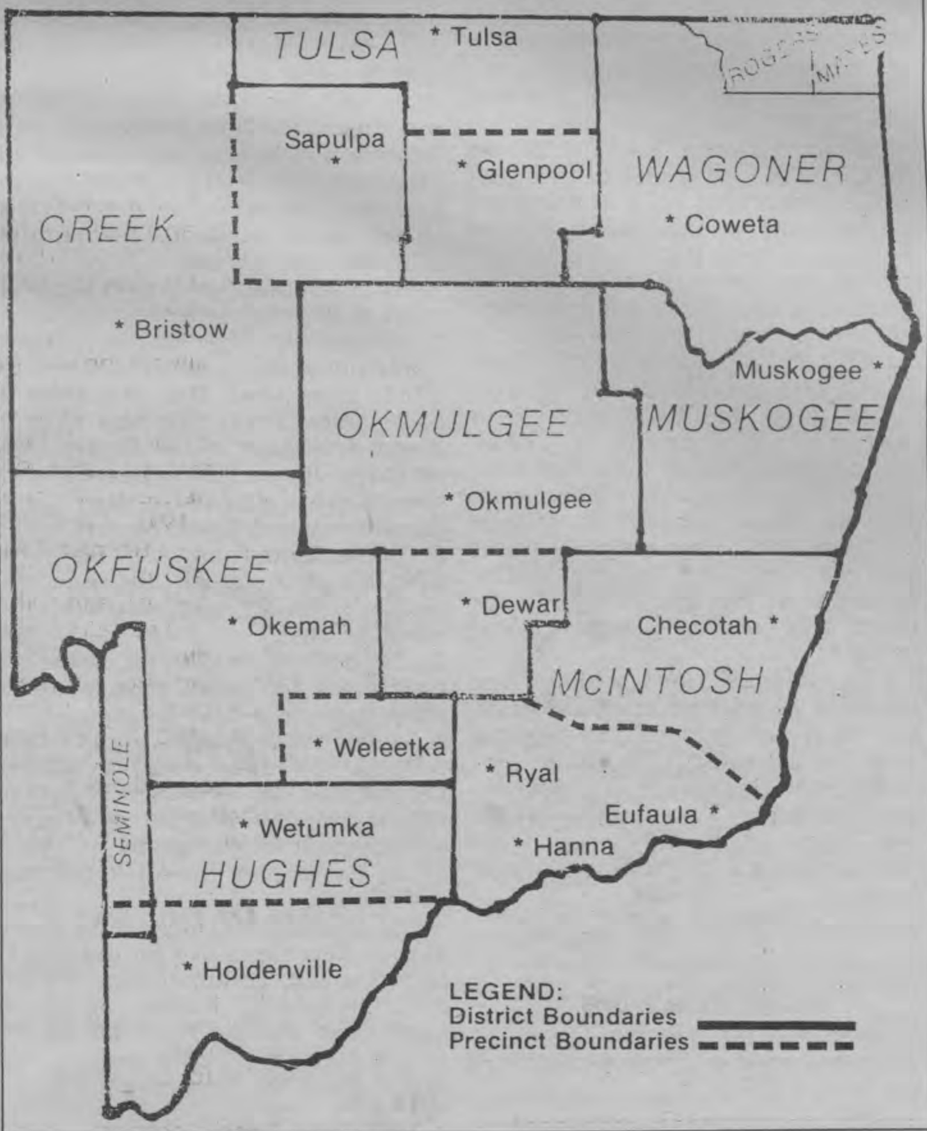
-CREEK-

Bristow- Indian Community Center, 121 West Lincoln.
Sapulpa- Sapulpa Head Start (old clinic) 520 South Adams.

-OKMULGEE-

Okmulgee- Creek Nation Tribal Complex, Hwy. 75 & Loop 56.
Dewar- Indian Community Center.

Creek Nation Voting Boundaries



Principal Chief Candidates Continued

Billy S. Fife. . . has attended meetings of the National Congress of American Indians and the National Tribal Chairman's Association on behalf of the Creek Nation.

Fife states "the major issues confronting the Creek Nation today are employment, economic development, health care and education. The basic needs of the people should first be met, and this is a major concern among the Creek citizens I have talked with."

Fife believes that politics should be eliminated from the daily operation in the administration of our tribal government. Politics have affected the tribal administation to the point that it infringes upon the individual freedoms guaranteed our people by both the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution and the U.S. Constitution according to Fife.

One of his first acts, if elected, Fife says, the adoption of a Personnal Policy and Procedures Manual which will protect employees from unfair hiring and firing practices, and the enforcement of Indian preferance in both hiring and contracting.

Fife states that if elected, he will first determine the status and condition of the tribal government and when this is accomplished, he will work diligently to get our internal affairs in shape to meet future needs. Employment and economic development depends on how well our tribe can attract industry and commerce into our tribal area and the capability of our tribe to secure federal grants and contracts, something I feel is sorely lacking in the present administration.

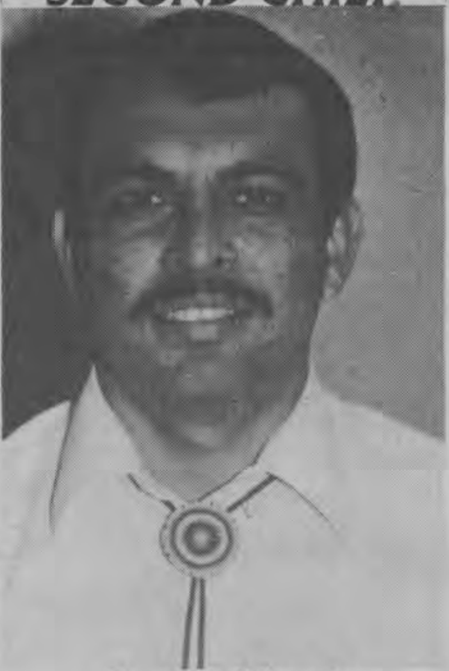
Another major concern of Fife is the health care which has been undertaken by the Creek tribe. He says "Health care is one of the most critical responsibilities that our tribal government has undertaken. We can ill-afford to lose this service for our people and we must reorganize our health services, both administration and operations, so that we can continually provide the very best health care possible for our citizens."

Fife feels that education is a national concern, a state responsibility and a local function. According to Fife " We must not only provide strong support to college and public schools students, we must become involved in the entire educational process, identify our needs and continually plan for the future."

Fife continues to say that "our culture is a very important aspect of our tribal government and support must be provided to tribal towns, ceremonial grounds and churches. We must utilize a tribal comprehensive plan which will serve as a blueprint for the development of our future."

PATRICK BEVENUE
Candidate for Principal Chief
No Information or Photo Available

SECOND CHIEF



Earl W. Wheeler

Dear Creek Citizens:

My name is Earl W. Wheeler, Euchee/Creek. I am a candidate for the office of Second Chief of the Creek Nation. I was born and raised in rural Creek County and now live in Bristow. I have been married to Connie for sixteen years and have three children, Kimberly 15, Kevin 10, and Jeremiah 6.

I am the son of the late Roy N. Wheeler and Alice (Bucktrot) Wheeler. My grandparents were Wysena Madison Bucktrot and Annie (Brown) Bucktrot. I am a Sandcreek Tribal Town citizen and a member of the Mutteloke Methodist Church of Bristow.

Attended Depew Public School; 4 years USAF; Honorable Discharge; 2-1/2 years college while working full time; 7 years as draftsman.

Served as Chairperson and member of the JOM & Title IV Indian Education at Bristow; instrumental in obtaining two teachers' aides and a Counselor; organized an Arts & Crafts show and cultural awareness program for students.

My accomplishments over the past years as Representative includes:

1. Organized the Bristow Indian Community which was chartered in 1983; three years later obtained a community center. We now have a Bingo operation in the facility that employs 20 part-time people and generates revenue for the Community and Creek Nation.
2. Implemented an Arts & Crafts display for local Indians in conjunction with the annual Western Heritage Days.
3. Established an Elderly Nutrition program which serves noon meals to the elderly on a daily basis.
4. Developed a youth work program funded by the Bristow Indian Community; a two-fold program helping the elderly while generating employment for the youth.
5. Re-established the CHR for the Creek District.

The people asked me to serve them as their Representative for the Creek District which I committed to God for direction of my Indian people. I heard and saw the need for better communication to the people, so District meetings were held to inform my people of tribal business.

As Second Chief of the Creek Nation I will, with your help: SERVE all the Creek/Euchee people to the best of my ability. WORK to represent the people in tribal matters. LISTEN to all the people and keep my door open. STRIVE for tribal unity and fellowship.

As your District Representative I am extremely proud of my contribution to the accomplishments that have been made within my District over the past years. The gains are remarkable but more needs to be done. The gains were made possible by tough and strong leadership. As your Second Chief, I will offer the same kind of guts and integrity. My work for the past years as a District Representative and as a member of the Tribal Council has given me first-hand knowledge of tribal programs.

I will work with the Chief and District Representatives to keep you informed and work for you, the people that make up this Nation.

In closing, I want to say that our Creek Nation's progress doesn't depend on how much we give to those who have abundance, but rather how much we give to those who have so little.

Your vote will be appreciated. MTVO. Earl Wheeler

R. Perry Beaver

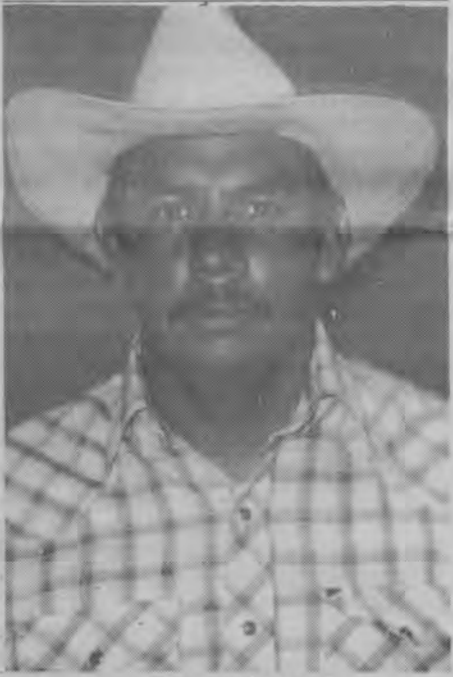
Perry Beaver, currently the Second Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has announced that he will seek another term as the Second Chief of the third largest Indian tribe in the country. Beaver is presently employed in the Jenks public school system as the Director of Indian Education and the Head Coach of the high school football program. He has been employed with the school system for 22 years, the last ten years as its Head Coach.

Beaver, graduated from Morris High School and upon his graduation from Morris attended Murray Junior College. He later transferred to Northeast Louisiana State College in Monroe, Louisiana on a football scholarship. He received his B.S. Degree from Central State University in Edmond, Okla and his Masters from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah.

He lists his experience on Creek Nation tribal affairs as having served on the National Council for a period of 1 1/2 years and the 2 1/2 years he has served as the Second Chief. He served as the Chairman of the Human Resource Development Committee while serving on the National Council. The committee is responsible for the educational programs of the Creek Nation on the Council level. During his term as the Second Chief he has presented testimony to the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs concerning various Indian policies. According to the Second Chief he feels his office "has made it a point to provide assistance to all tribal members and in having an open door policy."

The 48 year old educator is married to the former Mariam Bruner. Mrs. Beaver is a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. They have four children, Brant, Brent, Robin and Del who attend the Jenks schools. The Second Chief is a member of the Big Cussetah Indian Methodist Church and his wife a member of the Middle Creek number 1 Indian Baptist Church.

Beaver grew up in the Okmulgee area and is the son of John and Della Beaver and comes from very close family of 10 children. Mariam grew up in the Holdenville area the daughter of Thomas and Winey Bruner. The Beavers are very proud of their Creek heritage, a heritage they share with their children.



Floyd Jones

Floyd Jones announces his candidacy for the office of Second Chief of the Muscogee "Creek" Nation.

Jones, who is 3/4 Creek, graduated from Capitol Hill High School in Oklahoma City, American Welding School in Tulsa, and also attended Central State University in Edmond, Oklahoma.

Jones is the son of Mahaley Tarpalechee Jones and Elmer Jones. His maternal grandparents are the late Rev. Miller and Nancy Tarpalechee. His paternal grandparents are the late Parley Baer and Austin Jones.

Jones has been active in tribal matters for four years. During that time, he helped organize the first political party of the Muscogee "Creek" Nation since the 1980's. Jones was twice elected to the Chairmanship.

Jones is currently on the Board of Directors of (2) two Creek related

(Continued on Next Page)

Floyd Jones. . .

organizations. In addition to those responsibilities, Jones has been a Youth Counselor and a Youth Coordinator for (11) eleven years. He has recently been appointed by the Okmulgee County District Judge to be a Court Appointed Child Advocate in child abuse matters.

Jones states, "he is most concerned with the high unemployment rate among our tribal citizens and the Economic Development situation. Jones would like to see the tribe geared toward Economic Development projects that will employ tribal citizens and generate income back into tribal programs.

Jones also feels that tribal programs need to be reevaluated, so they can operate more efficiently. He would also like to see the Health Care systems improved.

If elected, one of Jones's main objectives will be to nurture the relationship between our separate branches of government. He feels for the tribe to grow, the leadership must be able to work with one another.

Jones would also like to see some funding for the ceremonial grounds to assist them during the "Green Corn Season", Jones states,"I would like to see funding for our ceremonial grounds because it is the true form of religion and government of our Muscogee "Creek" people. To neglect our culture would tarnish our heritage and hinder our cultural future."

Jones feels the Second Chief position should be more active and not just an honorary position as it's been in the past.

If you share some of these ideas I would ask that you consider voting for Floyd Jones for Second Chief on October 24, 1987. ***MVTO***

Robert A. Hardridge

Hardridge, Okmulgee National Council Representative has filed his candidacy for Second Chief of the Muscogee Creek Nation. He has served as Councilman for 4 years.

Robert "Bobby" Hardridge is the son of the late Richard Hardridge and the late Isabel Sunny Hardridge. The nephew of the late Rev. Eugene Sunny and also is a member of Honey Creek Indian Methodist Church. Robert has two children, Ginger Ann 5 and Richard Drew, 4 years of age.

Hardridge is employed as a Professional Fire Fighter with the City of Okmulgee and serves as Vice President of Local 2839 of the Professional Fire Fighters of Oklahoma and the International Association of Fire Fighters A.F.L.C.I.O. He is a graduate of Oklahoma State University Technical Branch and attended Northeastern State University and Seminole Jr. College.

During his two terms as Representative he has served on the Committee of Community Services which includes most health pertaining programs which is one of the most important areas of concern, according to Hardridge. He also has served on the Special Select Committee on Constitutional Amendments.

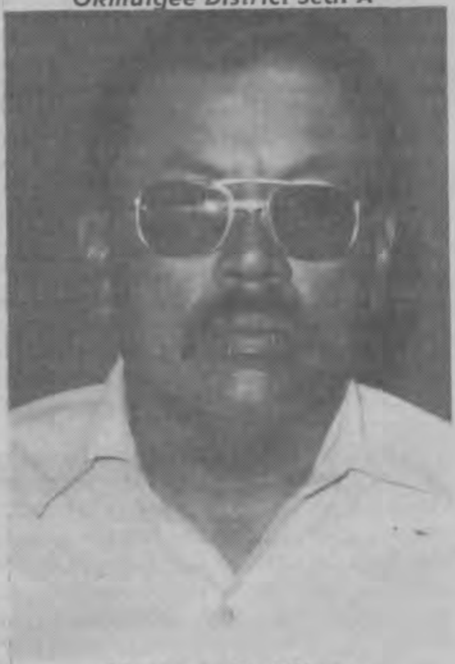
In my service as Councilman, I have seen a real need for compromise and cooperation between our branches of government. It's hard to pass legislation which is supposed to be meant for the betterment of the entire tribe with a conflict between government leaders. Only those in need of services or waiting for service are hurt during delays due to the political combat for power. I feel a new approach may be in order which could bring about more compromise in tribal law making. I feel I can bring forth this new approach with a more direct and open presentation and communication between the government branches. We need to consider each and every member of our tribe each day, not only during election year.

Too many promises go uncompleted in political and in life in general. So I say only this, I will do my best for each tribal member. If not for each member, there would be no tribe.

I am proud of the support I have received in the past and hope I may receive that support once again as I make my bid for Second Chief of the Muscogee Creek Nation.

OKMULGEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Okmulgee District Seat A



Harvey T. Gilroy

I, Harvey Gilroy, wish to make an official announcement as a candidate for National Council Representative of Okmulgee District, Seat A.

I was born and raised in the Wilson Community in Okmulgee County, son of Clemon and Hepsey Gilroy. My mother worked for the Creek Nation for 16 years until her retirement in December 1986.

Political game playing is not one of my aspirations. The opinions that I form and the decisions that I make will be based on fact and logic. Fairness and honesty are important to me.

The next few years is going to be a critical time for our people. Strong leadership is a must. Committment to this office will be a priority to me.

If elected, I will try to uphold the responsibilites of National Councilman to the best of my ability.

Harvey Gilroy

Okmulgee District Seat A

Paulette Rogers

I am 1/2 Creek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charley Green. I am married and have two children, Shannon 19, and Norman Jr. 17.

I have served on the Board of Health Affairs for the Creek Nation Hospital from 1981 until the present time, and also I have been the chairperson of the Johnson O'Malley program of Henryetta for six years.

I am running for Seat A of Okmulgee District.

The reason I decided to run for council representative is to best serve the needs of the Creek people, particular in the health needs.

Okmulgee District Seat B

Leah J. Stacy

I am seeking a third term as District Representative to the National Council for Okmulgee District (Seat B). The tribe is at a critical stage at this time. Great strides have been made by the tribe in the way of self-government through Federal and State funding. However, these funds are reducing annually and it is important for the future welfare of programs for the Creek people that the elected officials look for enterprises in order for the tribe to become more economically independent. For the present and future needs of our people in the areas of Education, Health, Employment and Welfare; concerned leadership is primary for the continuation of these programs and the development of new programs.

If given the opportunity to serve again as your representative I will do my best to eliminate wasteful spending and to strengthen the base and foundation of the Creek Nation. I ask for all Okmulgee District voters to exercise this right and am asking you to vote for me on October 24th.

I appreciate your support and will continue to put the Creek people's need as a first priority.

Okmulgee District Seat B

Lucille Factor

I am Lucille Factor, full-blood Creek residing in Okmulgee. I have filed my candidacy for the Okmulgee District Representative (Seat B) to the Muscogee National Council.

I do not personally know my opponent, but the reason I am running for that position is that I believe in teamwork. After observing the reports from the Council meetings, I have seen a lack of cooperation that is directly affecting the future progress of Creek Nation.

My opponent has voted against or deliberately held in committee every piece of legislation that would have helped Creeks if she thought Chief Cox recommended it. I have always been a person who cooperated with any individual (regardless of my personal feelings) if I thought it would help someone.

Several years ago I returned to Okmulgee from California. I was amazed at the progress that had occured in the Creek Nation. I want

(Continued on Next Page)

Okmulgee Representative Seat B Continued

Lucille Factor. . .

to be a part of that progress. My opponent fails to listen to the people she represents. I promise you that I will make sober-minded, unselfish decisions; relying on your input and suggestions as tribal citizens.

I attended Newtown Church most of my life. I was schooled at Chilocco Indian School and worked for Ball Bros. from 1943-1955. Currently I offer myself to volunteer work at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital. Other people's best interest are very important to me.

I was shocked when my opponent voted against absentee voting because that would have denied the sick, the elderly, the service men, and those who have been forced to leave Creek Nation for employment the right to participate in tribal affairs.

All of our Creek ancestors came to Creek Nation the same way, they walked in the forced removal- the infamous Trail of Tears; therefore, I believe all Creek descendents have the right to vote in tribal elections.

I will appreciate your vote of confidence in me to represent you in a fair and honest manner with your advise on tribal matters for your Okmulgee District Representative (Seat B) in the October 24 tribal election.

MVTO, Lucille Factor

Okmulgee District Seat C

Barton A. Williams

My name is Barton Wiliams, 43, and I am 3/8 Creek. I graduated from Graham High School near Weleetka, Okla. My parents are Irvin and Alice Williams of Weleetka, Okla. I have one son, Shawn Williams, 16, a student at Henryetta High School and I am married to Rita (Berryhill) Williams of the Wilson Community. I am presently employed with the Henryetta Police Department.

I am currently serving as a representative of the Okmulgee District.

I have served on the council seat for two years and am running for the third term on my own merits.

The knowledge that I have gained concerning our Creek Nation Government has been unmeasurable and the friends I have made are priceless.

As your representative, my decisions to vote on Bills were never based on the personal level of who sponsored the Bill, but has been my discretion to weigh all the aspects of how the Bill would affect the Creek people.

In these two years I have served, I have observed alot of disharmony, all the while our concerns are the same, WE just get in the way. The Creek Nation has come along way, but I see a greater potential to advance, we must, "For without a Vision the People Perish."

Before the Creek Nation can become self-sufficient, we must first find a good working economic development system which allows for growth.

As a police officer I have seen a portion of Indian youth coming through on alcohol and drug usage. One of my desires is to see a comprehensive alcohol and drug abuse program throughout the Creek Nation.

This has been a learning experience for me, I wouldn't take anything for the past two years, for it has taught me my tradition, culture, humility, respect, perserverance, and most of all its been rewarding. For I have learned, quality decisions are not made overnight!

Okmulgee District Seat C

Gary Hudgens

Gary Hudgens was born and raised in the Twin Hills area and has lived most of his 34 years in the Okmulgee area. He attended Eastern Oklahoma State College in Wilburton, graduating with an Associate Degree in Animal Husbandry and continued on to O.S.U. in Stillwater to obtain his bachelors degree in animal science.

He is acquainted with many of the Creek communities through his work as District Lay Leader of the Northeast Methodist Indian Conference and Lay Leader of Concharty Methodist Indian Church northeast of Okmulgee. He is currently a member of the Creek Housing Authority.

Gary has been married for 13 years and has two children. He is employed as lead-man in the over-haul department of Dresser-Rand in Broken Arrow where he's worked for the past six years. His wife, Shirley, is employed as a legal secretary in Tulsa. His children, Brandy, 8, and Clint, 6, attend Twin Hills School northeast of Okmulgee.

Gary is interested in serving the Creek people as a council member and would like to see the community become more aware of the programs available to them. Gary feels there seems to be a lack of communication between the present council and community members. He hopes you will help to bring about a needed change.

Okmulgee District Seat D

George Almerigi

I am a Candidate for Representative to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council for Okmulgee District, Seat D.

I am 54 years old and one-half Creek. I live with my wife of 30 years on a farm south of Okmulgee, in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma. I am a member of the Wilson Indian Community.

I want to be a Councilmember because I believe that I am well qualified to serve and because many people have encouraged me to seek the office. My education, legal training and work experience enable me to analyze the issues. Having been raised in a Creek home and environment, I feel I can relate to the problems and issues which our Creek citizens are facing daily.

In my private law practice, I have represented many Creek clients and have become familiar with the legal problems of Creeks that could be addressed by the National Council.

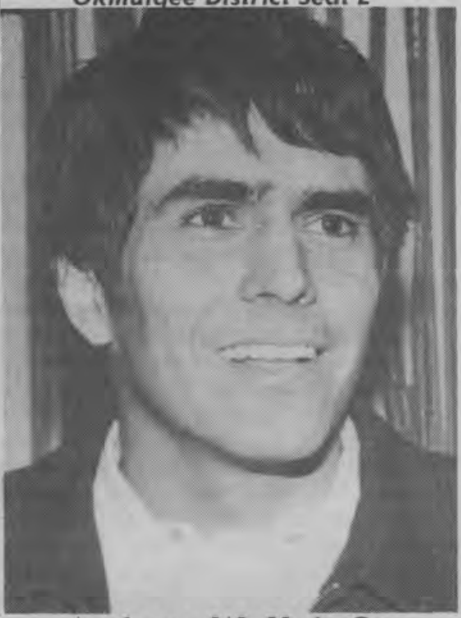
As Creek Tribal attorney for over two years, I became knowledgeable about the Creek Government, tribal sovereignty, State versus tribal interests in taxation and regulation of bingo and smoke shops, and the meaning of Indian self-determination.

The Creek Nation needs to become economically self-sufficient in order that it can continue to provide health, education and job training, and welfare services to our people as the federal government cuts back on its commitments and obligations to Indians. We need representatives on the council who have a vision of how to make the Tribal government self-sufficient, who have the know how and experience that enables them to participate in the debate on how we should proceed, who can behave professionally to determine what is in the best interest of the Creek Nation. I am qualified to serve on the council.

Okmulgee District Seat D

Juanita Dunson- No Information

Okmulgee District Seat E



Anthony W. Hale Sr.

In the two years that I have served as representative of the Okmulgee District, it has been my privilege to work with the Creek Nation administration, other members of the National Council and the Creek citizens. This experience has given me greater insight into what the responsibilities of a representative are.

As a member of the Okmulgee Indian Community, I have attended as many meetings as I possibly could and presented a report on the activities of the National Council, and informed the community members on issues facing the Tribe. I have consistently voted for ordinances that has kept the Creek Nation strong in its commitment to serve all Creek people. The constitution of the Creek Nation has undergone much testing, but it has remained intact.

If re-elected, I will continue to be a voice for the Creek citizens of the Okmulgee District is areas of economic development, taxation issues, tribal sovereignty, and ongoing social welfare programs. I have not missed any council meetings during my term as your representative, and I have consistently attended special sessions and committee meetings.

On a personal note, I have been married to Debbie (Lunsford) for nine years; we have two sons, Tony Jr. and Mark Adam, and a foster daughter, Angie. We have established Hale Automotive, a family owned business, now in its second year.

In 1986, I was appointed to serve out a term on the Okmulgee City School Board, and recently ran unopposed for the same seat; I now serve as Clerk for the School Board. I served as Vice-Chairman on the Creek Nation Housing Authority Board for two years. I am a member of the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce. Our family is still active members of the Crosstown Pentecostal Holiness Church.

I ask for your vote on October 24th to return me to the National Council to represent you.

Okmulgee District Seat E

Thomas P. Berryhill

My name is Thomas P. Berryhill. I am running for Seat E in Okmulgee County. I reside at 1611 East 9th in Okmulgee. I am married and have four children. My wife is Jean (Wacoche) Berryhill. I am 4/4 Creek, my parents are Tom Berryhill of Henryetta and the late Blanche (Bland) Berryhill.

I am privileged at present, to serve as spiritual leader of the Tree of Life Fellowship and also spiritual advisor to the Este Mvskokvlke Political Party.

I am of the Alligator Clan-affiliated with the Arbeka Ceremonial grounds.

As a leader and teacher in spiritual affairs among our people, I have found that promoting holistic well-being is a vital and crucial element in maintaining and developing good overall health for the individual. Likewise, as councilman, I will work towards a continued improvement of all areas of Native concern.

It is time for a change and change is long overdue. Well-being means development and constant change.

As we consider the wavering economy of our nation and also the depreciating value of paper money, we must look through the eyes of logic and practicality. One does not have to state much statistics to prove that the future of our economy is definitely shaky according to some economists. U.S. deficit is over 2 trillion dollars and there are no immediate solutions. Complex analysis of its' projected conditions cannot justify or give quick answers to this impending problem. It is too vast. It is logic to assume that the majority of our Indian people are sure to feel its' impact.

With these things in mind, we must conclude that a re-evaluation of our tribal government's long range effectiveness is now due. To be sure this should be in the minds of every concerned tribal member. While we are thinking of these serious matters concerning the future of the tribe, let us be mindful of these three things. 1. Federal cut-backs have dealt definite blows to the tribe's present administrative effectibility for long range service and security for our people. 2. Tribal economy and cultural continuity will be threatened by degenerating money and economic conditions. 3. We must seek a realistic survival alternative.

Time for a change. The first impression one would get from the phrase "time for change" would be an immediate renovation of things. This is not so. Yet it is high time to come to certain ideas that will implement change. Ideas for change do not have to begin within the political process of the tribal government. It is the responsibility of every concerned tribal members to look at the present trend of things and scrutinize its' effect on our future in order to come to a conclusion for a better alternative. NOW IS THE TIME!!!

I will not be silent nor will I cast a vote just to maintain an Administrative stand if it is not in favor of the people - My vote will be a fair vote if elected councilman.

MVTO

MUSKOGEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Muskogee District Seat A

Helen L. Chupco

Helen L. Chupco has been involved in Creek tribal affairs for many years, because she has great concern for her people and strong desire to help them.

Currently she is serving as chairman of Community Services that reviews programs on social services, health, housing rehabilitation, commodity food distribution, and elderly nutrition for National Council's approval.

She is an advocate for Creek Indians, not only her district constituents, but others as well, to tribal administration and staff. She says it is the responsibility of district representatives to represent Creek citizens and make it their priority. She hopes to continue being faithful to her position, have close contact with them, and to provide information and assistance.

Her accomplishments are having a good organized community and a building to hold their meetings and activities.

She would like for Muscogee Nation to develop tribal businesses to provide job opportunities for unemployed Creek Indians, and continue to provide quality health care (which requires sufficient funding). Also, she would like to see all Creek Indian families become eligible for housing, who haven't qualified due to under income or no income, and there are many families living in sub-standard homes.

She will continue to address these needs as a representative to the National Council and working with tribal administration.

Mrs. Chupco is a member of Tuckabatchee Tribal Town, wife or retired minister, Lee L. Chupco. Her family consists of two children - James, an assembler of Holdenville, and Waukomis Lewis, supervisory nurse at Claremore Hospital Emergency Clinic, and three grandchildren.

She is the daughter of the late Reverend Billie and the late Bessie Palmer of Holdenville. She is employed in the Indian Education Program of the Muskogee Public Schools.

Helen Chupco

Muskogee District Seat A

Rosalie Tiger

I will be a candidate for Seat A in Muskogee District for National Creek Council representative from that area. I'm full blood Creek and daughter of Johnny and Lucinda Tiger of Muskogee.

I would like the opportunity to serve and vote for the Creek citizens in the Muscogee Area. I am particularly interested in economic development for our tribe, as well as in the health and education of our people.

I graduated from Northeastern State University in 1977 with a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration and Indian Studies. I work at the Data Processing Department at the Muskogee Regional Medical Center. I am, also a Field Interviewer for the National Medical Health Expenditure Survey and was Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

I would appreciate your vote on October 24, 1987.

Muskogee District Seat A

Chester Fields- No Information

Muskogee District Seat B

Harley Gene Little- Unopposed

TULSA DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Tulsa District Seat A

Donna Freeman Rhodes

erican Indian Arts Festival

Donna Freeman Rhodes is a candidate for the Muscogee Council from the Tulsa District.

She was born in Eram, Okla and moved to Tulsa with her parents, the late Jesse and Margaret Freeman and has spent most of her life growing up and living in Tulsa. She has one sister Mary Arkeketa and six brothers, Richard, Pat, John, Mickey, Ted and William.

Donna attended school in Tulsa and graduated from Tulsa Central High School. She also attended Tulsa Jr. College and Northeastern State University majoring in Business Administration.

Donna has worked in the Indian community as a founder and director of the Tulsa Indian Youth Council,Inc. *She was a trustee and board President* of the the Indian Health Care Resource Center. Other organizations included being the Vice President of the American Indian Theatre Co, and served two years as the President of the board for the Metropolitan Y.W.C.A.

Many honors have been bestowed on Donna, one of which she was very proud, to be a member of the National Advisory Council on Indian Education appointed by the President of the United States. She also was honored with an award from the J.C. Penny Co, chosen for community service work and the First National Award J.C. Penny has ever given.

She is presently serving as the Steering Committee Chairperson for the National Indian Education Association Conference to be held in Tulsa in November of "88". She is also the coordinator of the Tulsa Indian Arts and Crafts Festival.

Donna is very interested and concerned about the education, health employment and economics of the Muskogee Nation. She believes that a good foundation is built on accountability in which she would do as a council member.

As a member of the Oklahoma Coalition on Indian Education, who's motto is "Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow," she too believes that life is an never ending learning process and it's what you do with what you learn.

Donna is proud of her Muscogee culture and tradition and is passing on what she knows to the younger generation by showing them how to prepare and cook their own Indian

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Tulsa Representative

Seat A

Donna Rhodes. . .

food. She has helped many organizations to raise funds by cooking for them.

With the Tulsa District having such a large number of Creeks living there, she will try to keep an open communications between them and the council.

Donna has two sons and one daughter and is employed by the Okla Turnpike Authority.

Tulsa District Seat A

William Dowdy

My name is William McHenry Dowdy Sr. I am 7/16 Creek Indian. My mother is Dorothy Lee Bible. I am married to Bernadine Jones Dowdy and we have two sons, William McHenry Dowdy (age 10) and Jeremy Lynn Dowdy (age 7). Our two sons attend Glenpool Elementary School.

After graduating from Central High School in Tulsa, I started work in construction and have been self-employed since. I have lived in Glenpool for the past eight years and previously in Tulsa. I have lived in Tulsa County all my life.

My wife and I are currently active in the Glenpool Indian Education program under the funding of Johnson O' Malley and Title IV. During the summer months I am assistant baseball coach for both my sons.

I would like to be your next National Council Representative for Tulsa District County Seat A. I feel strongly toward better educating our children academically and culturally. We need to promote and protect our health services provided for our Creek Citizens.

I hope to have an open relationship with the people of our community. To represent you would be an honor and I would do so proudly. I may not have all the answers, but I will do my best to find the correct answers for you.

Thank you for your support.
William M. "Bill" Dowdy Sr.

Tulsa District Seat B

Jerry Wilson- No Information

Tulsa District Seat B

Patricia A. Clark

To All Creek Citizens:

I would like to express how much I have enjoyed being a member of the Creek Nation Council, and working with the Creek citizens who put me in the Council seat.

As a Tulsa County Representative it has been a pleasure to work with Principal Chief Cox and the Executive Director, Gary Breshears. Perhaps I should emphazise the full staff of the Creek Nation.

I feel I have put my heart into helping our people. If elected by the people for a second term, you can put your trust in me assisting you in every wav that is ethical.

I would like to emphasize also, I am working with Professor Hilligoss, who is an expert witness for our Indian rights in Oklahoma prisions. We are organizing a non-profit inter-tribal organization to create cultural programs. I know there are Creek citizens that have loved ones who are incarcerated. We want to help them to be where they can exercise their religion, which will help to rehabilitate them.

Be sure and cast your vote October 24 for me for Tulsa District Representative, Seat B.

Respectfully,
Patricia A. Clark
Tulsa Representative

Tulsa District Seat C

Larry Bible- Unopposed

Tulsa District Seat D

Kenneth Childers- Unopposed

Tulsa District Seat E

Irene Cleghorn- Unopposed

HUGHES DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

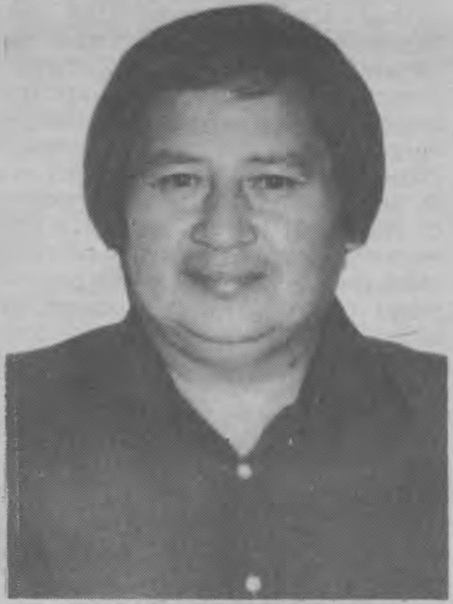
Hughes District Seat A

Robert E. Buck

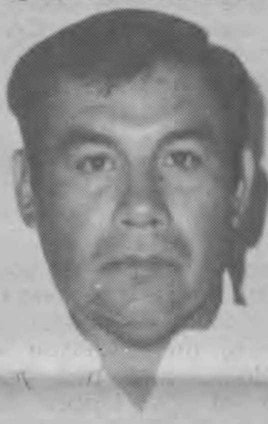
I am Robert Buck from Holdenville seeking re-election for the Muscogee (Creek) National Council representing the Hughes-Seminole District.

As you can check my voting record, I supported the programs for the elderly Creek citizens and economic development.

I would like to be your representative for the next two years. Your vote and support will be appreciated.



Hughes District Seat A



Billy Ray Smith

Billy Ray Smith, seeking Creek National Council representative seat for Hughes County.

Billy Ray Smith was born in 1948 in Talihina, Ok. His residence has been in Hughes County for the majority of his life. He is a full-blood Creek Indian and speaks the Creek language fluently. He is married and has four children. Currently, he resides in Carson, Ok. He has been employed as an ironworker for the past fifteen years and belongs to the Tulsa Ironworkers Union 584.

During this time he has also owned and operated dozer and welding for about three years. He is also a Vietnam Veteran having served in the U.S. Army from 1966-69.

His experience is limited in regard to the political aspects of the Creek government; however, not as a Creek citizen. He has felt, seen, and heard the concerns of the people. He feels a great concern that proper representation needs to be met, and, not only delegation from the people to the legislature to represent their interests but open communication that will convey information back to the people.

He believes that council representation entails more than merely representing the council-its representing you, the tribal citizens in decision making issues and events occuring within the tribe.

He will be committed to secure representation for the tribal citizen within their government.

Hughes District Seat B

Jonas Dunson- No Information

Hughes District Seat B

James Wesley- No Information

Hughes District Seat C

Johnson Buck

I, Johnson W. Buck, am seeking re-election for the National Council from the Hughes-Seminole District.

I ask for your support and vote in this upcoming election. My parents are the late Nathan Buck Sr. and the late Alice McCosar Buck.

I am a graduate of Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kansas and Oklahoma State Tech in Okmulgee.

Health, Education and Employment of our Muskogee Creek Citizens are my main concerns. I will continue to do all that I can through our tribal government to meet the needs of our people.

Hughes District Seat C

Frances Long- No Information

WAGONER DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Wagoner District Seat A

Alexander Thomas- Unopposed

Wagoner District Seat B

Thurston Primeaux- Unopposed

CREEK DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Creek District Seat A

Roy Bear

My name is Roy Bear. I am 1/2 Creek Indian. I have lived in the Bristow area all of my life. My father is Roley Bear.

I am a post graduate of Haskell Institute now Haskell Junior College. I have served in the armed forces and the Viet Nam Conflict 11/64 to 11/65. If reelected as your representative I will continue to work with the community, the tribe, the administration and the National Council for the betterment of the growth of the Muskogee Creek Nation. I have always supported the program for the elderly and voted for the communities to have a community center.

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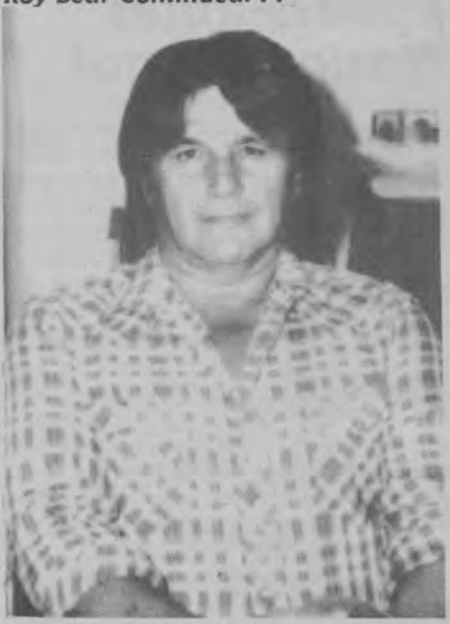
Roy Bear Continued. . .



I would appreciate your vote and your support on October 24.

Roy Bear

Creek District Seat A

Lee Roy Underwood-No information

Creek District Seat B

Ann Rolland Holder

Candidate for Representative to the Creek National Council from Creek District. Address: Sapulpa area for most of my life, now living at 919 N. Ross. Education: High School and Business School. Experience: Served 18 months as recording secretary for the Creek National Council when the 44 tribal towns were recognized during the late Solomon McCombs' tenure as the Second Chief. I was also associated with community affairs a number of years.

Aim: I have a desire to represent and work for my community in order to promote a stronger sense of unity among the citizens of Creek District and the Creek Nation Complex.

I want to improve upon a more direct system and communication with the people to learn about their needs and to find ways to supply these needs.

Goal: If I should be elected as a representative, it is my goal to help bring about a better working relationship between the people of Creek District and the government of Creek Nation Headquarters.

I would consider it a real honor to be your servant to represent my community for in it lives wonderful people; I am proud to be one of them.

Creek District Seat B

Ed Porter Frye

Candidate for Creek County, Seat "B", Creek Nation Council Representative.

I was born and raised in Creek County and graduated from Bristow High School. I have attended college for four years. I have a second class radio-telephone license, a real estate license and a private pilots license. I spent 25 years in Alaska and retired. I built a home three miles south of Bristow and am now residing there.

While in Alaska I served ten years as President of the Anderson Village School Board and two years as chairman of the Upper Railbelt School District. I have served as Precinct Chairman, District Chairman, member of the State Central Committee, and a delegate to State and the National Convention of the Republican Party.

While serving in these various positions, I was made aware of many of the problems which face the Indian people today.

The Creek Nation has done well in instituting programs which aid the people of the Creek Nation. However, I should like to see all the programs and more continue to grow and become self-sustaining by the Creek Nation, and not dependent upon federal funding.

The Creek Nation needs to expand its profit making capabilites in order to sustain these programs, while at the same time employing and utilizing an Indian work force.

As a representative of the Creek Nation Council, I feel that from past experience I can make a viable contribution to the people of Creek County and the people of the Creek Nation in attaining these goals.

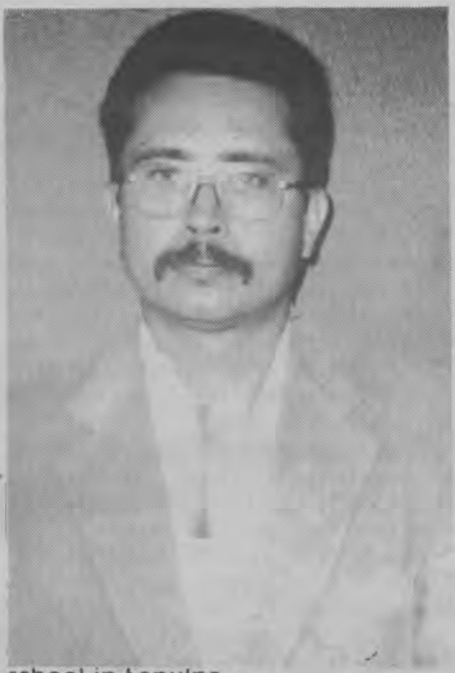
Creek District Seat B

T.G. Jerry Riley- No Information

Creek District Seat C

Michael Bigler

My name is Michael Bigler and I am asking for your vote because I want to serve our people and believe that I can do a good job of it. I am half Yuchi from my mother, Josephine Wildcat Bigler, and have lived in Sapulpa for about nine years. I am 33 years old, have been married for 13 years, and have two children that are in grade school in Sapulpa.



I trained as a welder and fitter and then as a heavy equipment mechanic. When the jobs disappeared in Oklahoma, I decided to go to school in order to get a job. I am now a full time student in the agriculture college in Stillwater. I am on the GI Bill through the National Guard (Co. A, 120 Engineers in Pryor). I am used to driving long distances to do whatever I have to do and would enjoy driving around the Creek District to see the people that I represent.

I believe that a representative should go to his people and let them know what is going on in the district and nation. He should be available to them so that they can let him know what they want.

I have been active in the Sapulpa Community for several years and have been on the Board of Directors of the Sapulpa Indian Community for the last year and a half. I know that there are a lot of our people that don't come to the Sapulpa, Bristow, or Kellyville meetings. I will try to go to these people and I will be available to talk to them if they call me at my home or run into me on the street.

Whether or not I win this seat, I will support our district representatives. I believe that we must not cripple ourselves by fighting against each other. We can disagree and argue with our representatives and Chiefs, but it should be the disagreements that we have with a valued friend. Only by supporting each other and seeking the best direction for all of us will we gain in strength and grow spiritually as a nation and as a people.

Creek District Seat C

Clarence Cloud

I am asking your support to be elected your Creek Nation Councilman.

My wife Lou and I have raised our 3 children on my father David Cloud's allotted land. I am the son of Minnie Scott and David Cloud. I have seven grandchildren.

I believe I am familiar enough with the Creek Nation government to give you good representation.

I was educated at Chilocco Indian School. A member of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for 35 years and retired in 1981. I served as president for the Tulsa Local 584 for six consecutive years and executive board member for 4 years. Elective Delegate to two national conventions at Seattle and Atlantic City and numerous seminars.

Lou and I opened and operated the Democratic Headquarters in Sapulpa, working with and for Jimmy Jones, David Boren and Ted Risenhoover.

I served on the Creek Nation Housing board for four years. I was appointed by Chief Claude Cox to the Supreme Court and resigned when I was elected to the Creek Nation Tribal Council in 1981 serving 2 terms.

OKFUSKEE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

Okfuskee District Seat A

Clyde Johnson- Unopposed

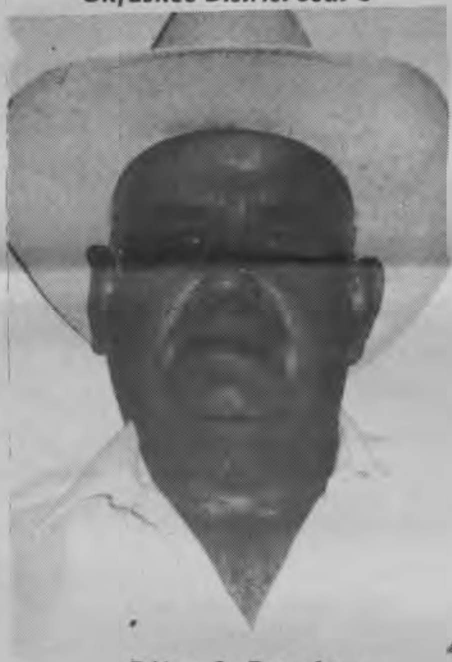
Okfuskee District Seat B

Carney Roberts- Unopposed

Okfuskee District Seat C

Dorothy Miller- No Information

Okfuskee District Seat C



Billy J. Burden

I'm Bill Burden and running for seat C in the Okfuskee District. I would like to represent my people again. I stand on my previous record.

When in office before, I helped get the original allottees a one time sum to buy something extra for themselves.

Also helped with a bill to buy children school clothes. I introduced a bill to pay for medical bills for Creek people that had been referred out to other doctors and clinics and that these people could not pay. I started a bill to build rest rooms for ceremonial grounds and churches.

I would appreciate your vote on October 24.

Billie J. Burden

McINTOSH DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

McIntosh District Seat A

Tommie Newton- Unopposed

McIntosh District Seat B

Frank Kamp- Unopposed

McIntosh District Seat C

Daniel Barnett- No information

McIntosh Representative Seat C

Sandy McIntosh

Sandy McIntosh announces his candidacy for a third term as McIntosh District Representative, Seat C.

I am a combat veteran of World War II, a member of Eufaula Masonic Lodge number I and have diligently served as your representative for five years, during which time I have not missed any council meetings.

In retrospect, we have accomplished many things during the last five years, however; we should be looking to the future of our tribe and the next generation. We must build a strong foundation now, to assure a successful future for our children. I recognize the challenge and accept it.

Being the representative for McIntosh District is a full time job. Since I am retired, I have the time and experience to continue the work we have begun. Your vote will be appreciated on Oct. 24th.

McIntosh District Seat C

Johnathan Tiger

My name is Jon Tiger, 4/4 Muscogee Creek from Eufaula, Ok. I've lived most of my life in Eufaula where my mother Harriett Tiger and my grandmother Susie Cosar Scott reside. My father Yahola Tiger passed away over the Easter week-end. My grandfather the late Bennie Buckskin Scott was a councilman during the Dode McIntosh era.

Some of my ancestors are Jackson Lewis who was a respected leader and noted Indian doctor schooled in the old ways of herbal medicines. Ispahecha,who aspired to be another Tecumseh to establish a league of Indian nations founded upon ancient customs, was Jackson's brother. Cotchvchee (little tiger) was my great-grandfather. He was declared Chief during the Sands Harjo-Sam Checote power struggle for the traditional faction.

I am presently employed at the McIntosh County Democrat Newspaper in Checotah working in the dark room and as printer.

I am seeking the office of National Council Representative of the McIntosh District.

I urge all registered citizens to exercise their right to vote and to vote for whomever they please on October 24.

Our people must get involved with tribal affairs. Our tribal branches of government needs to work with our council with the support of the people. We are in a time where our programs are threatened or regulated. Thank You.
Jon M. Tiger

Creek Nation; Okmulgee County Receive Grant

A joint effort between Okmulgee County and the Creek Nation has resulted in a $25,000 grant to obtain a computer system that will assist law enforcement in solving crimes and the storage of records.

The equipment will be stored in the County Courthouse. Okmulgee County Sheriff Bill Weaver said one terminal will be housed in his office on the first floor of the courthouse.

A terminal printer will also be housed in the district attorney's office, the Okmulgee County Jail and at the Creek Nation Security office.

The computer system will be available to all local law enforcement. "It will serve to expedite investigations by having the information readily available without having to go through a lot of paperwork," explained the Sheriff.

He also said, " It couldn't have been done without Creek Nation." Sheriff Weaver who is Creek Indian also said his office has applied for another grant through Creek Nation to aid in the investigation of drug trafficking in the county." He said his office is in the process of setting up a task force with Creek Nation Security which has jurisdiction in eight counties.

Indian Business Symposium-

A symposium will be held for Indian entrepreneurs entitled "Doing Business in Indian Country" on November 19-20. The workshop will address the issues brought forth by members of NIBC such as acquired capital, joint venture opportunities, marketing strategies and working with the federal government. For further information regarding resigtration, location and agenda, please write or call the National Indian Business Council at NIBC, Attention: Conference Coordinator, 3575 So. Fox, Suite 1263, Englewood, Co, 80150-1263 or call (303) 692-6579.

Denver Court of Appeals Rules In Favor of Creek Nation Bingo!

A long awaited decision by the Creek Nation was made recently when a federal court of appeals ruled the state of Oklahoma cannot regulate or collect state sales taxes on bingo activities at the Tulsa Creek Nation Bingo.

The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma. The district court concluded that regulation and taxation by the state would preempt the Creek Nation tribal sovereignty.

The state appealed the lower court decision, claiming the Muscogee (Creek) Nation lands are not "Indian Country". Oklahoma said even if the lands are "Indian Country", the state has complete civil and criminal jurisdiction over the site.

In its decision upholding the lower court, the appeals court said the Creek Nation is a federally recognized Indian tribe. It said treaties concluded in the 1800's- during which time the Creeks ceded land in Alabama and Georgia in return for lands west of the Mississippi River-affirmed that "no state or territory shall ever pass laws for the government" of the Creeks.

The appeals court said the Creeks operate bingo games on a tract of treaty land in Tulsa County, Oklahoma. Creek Nation Bingo is managed by Indian Country U.S.A. Inc. (ICUSA)), a non-tribal entity.

Under the management agreement, ICUSA, submits to the jurisdiction of the court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The appeals court agreed with the district court's decision that the site of the bingo games is "Indian Country".

"For the purpose of defining Indian Country, the term simply refers to those lands which Congress intended to reserve for a tribe and over which Congress intended primary jurisdiction to rest in the federal and tribal governments," the appeals court said. "A formal designation of Indian lands as a reservation is not required for them to have Indian Country status."

The court said once Congress has set lands apart as Indian country, "they remain so until Congress divests them of that character". The bingo site "is part of the original treaty lands still held by the Creek Nation," and the lower court correctly concluded that the bingo site "is the purest form of Indian country."

The appeals court also rejected Oklahoma's claim that, upon admission to statehood, it acquired jurisdiction over members of the various Indian tribes and their lands within the former Indian territory. The court said the series of federal laws enacted prior to statehood and the Oklahoma Enabling Act "do not abolish the Creek Nation's legislative and regulatory authority over such lands, and do not evince a clear intent by Congress to permit the state to assert jurisdiction."

The court agreed Oklahoma has the right to impose a sales tax on some items, such as cigarettes, sold on Indian lands. But it said the bingo operation is different.

"Although the state has a general interest in taxing its residents, we agree with the tribal court that its interest is outweighed in this case by federal and tribal interests, and by the nature of the activity sought to be taxed," the appeals court said. "The product is created, sold and consumed wholly within tribal boundaries, significantly reducing the state's interest.

State Court of Appeals Rule Favor ICWA

On August 25, 1987, the Oklahoma Court of Appeals issued a decision reversing a Pontotoc County juvenile judge's 1986 termination of the parental rights of a Chickasaw woman. The Court of Appeals held in that case that the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) requires the appointment of counsel for a parent who cannot afford an attorney and whose children are the subject of a state deprived action throughout the case, including review hearings held to determine if the parental behavior has improved enough to allow return of the children to the parent.

The Court also held that parental rights cannot be terminated unless the district attorney can prove beyond a reasonable doubt that return of a child to the parent will result in serious emotional or physical harm to the child. The Court noted that although this requirement of the ICWA makes it more difficult to terminate Indian parental rights, the state courts must follow the federal law. The Court of appeals quoted Oklahoma Supreme court Justice Yvonne Kauger as follows: "Continuing separation of Indian children from their heritage is one of the most tragic and destructive aspects of contemporary Indian life. State intrusion into Native American parent-child relationships impedes the ability of the tribe to perpetuate itself, and ultimately, it unjustifiably results in a coerced assimilation of the First Americans into a larger more homogenous society."

The Court of Appeals concluded: "Although the trial court's charge to meld the protections of the ICWA with those of the State Statutes to insure the maximum protection to parents and their children is a heavy one, it is incumbent upon the trial court to provide all constitutional and statutory protections."

According to Judy Lewis, the Oklahoma Indian Legal Services attorney who represented the natural mother, the appeals court ordered the dismissal of the state's petition for termination of the woman's rights to her three children, but further proceedings may be held in state court before the children are returned to her client. It is not yet known whether the state will appeal the Court of Appeals decision to the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

—OBITUARIES—

DAVID BIBLE is shown as a young man playing for the Championship Football team of Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas in 1926. Mr. Bible was one of four survivors of that team. The three remaining survivors served as pallbearers for the Creek traditional services held for Bible at Springtown Indian Methodist.

DAVID BIBLE

Traditional Creek funeral services were held for Dave Bible, 84, who died Friday, August 28, in a Tulsa hospital following an apparent heart attack.

Services were conducted Tuesday at the Springtown Indian United Methodist Church on Oak Grove Road where he had been a life-long member.

Three former college football teammates served as honorary pallbearers; Egbert Ward, Green Valley, Ariz; Elijah Smith,Sun City, Arizona and George Levi, El Reno. They are the three survivors of the 1926 team.

Bible was born in Broken Arrow on July 16, 1904, son of Lewis and Mulsie Bible. He was married to Mildren Malone for 43 years and retired as a brick mason in 1969. Seven years ago the family moved to Glenpool.

Survivors include his wife, Mildred of the home, three daughters, Kathryn Jones, Tulsa, Shirley Thomas, Okmulgee, and Lucille Miller of Coweta; two sons, David E. Bible of Tulsa and Robert Lee Bible of Coweta; a stepson, Billy Joe Reed of Ft. Gibson; two brothers, Ruben Chalakee and Webster Chalakee both of Okmulgee; 23 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Daniel Chalakee, Chuck McHenry, Larry Bible, Ken Childers, Kenneth Lowe and James Wilde.

Burial was in Park Grove Cemetery under the direction of Hayhurst-Marlin Funeral Home.

REV. BUNNIE BRUNER, JR.

Rev. Bunnie Bruner, Jr. 59 year old resident of Henryetta died September 10.

He was born March 4, 1928 in Okemah. He was pastor of the Hickory Ground No. 1 Indian Baptist Church.

Services were held September 14 at Hickory Ground No. 1.

Survivors include one son Wendell Harjo of Henryetta; one sister Betty Bear of Dustin and several other relatives.

CLAY RANDY PERRYMAN

Services will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, September 3, 1987 at Hersman Funeral Chapel for Clay Randy Perryman, 27, who died Sunday at this residence in Tulsa.

Deacon Jim Pierret of Holy Cross Catholic Church will officiate. Burial will follow at 11:30 a.m. at U.S. National Cemetery, Fort Gibson, under direction of Hersman Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were; Jay Cook, Rollin Morgan, James Rice, Tom Terneus, Steve Matney and Jeff Allen.

Honorary Pallbearers were Rhol Perryman, Harry Perryman, Carl Napier, Emmett Carter, Gregory Perryman, Bryce Roberts, Tony Roberts, Jack Replogle, Brett Perryman, Ben Pinx, Jerry Pinx, Melvin Combs, Terry Roberts and Mark Combs.

Born June 17, 1960 in Merced, Calif. to Nolan and Patricia Britt Perryman, he moved to Wagoner with his family in 1975 and graduated in 1978 from Wagoner High School.

He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 1979 and was honorably discharged Aug. 26, 1983. He pursued his college education at Northeastern State University, where he was studying to be a paralegal. Clay possessed a fine artistic talent and enjoyed painting and writing. He was a member of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity at NSU and held a black belt in karate.

Survivors include his father, Nolan of Wagoner, his mother, Patricia Larsen of Pryor; a son Billy Dean Perryman of Pryor; a niece, Mandy Ann Perryman of Pryor; his grandmother, Ethel Perryman of Coweta; his grandfather, Sam Perryman of Coweta; his great-grandmother, Gladys Forrester of Coweta; his step-mother, Barbara Pinx of Wagoner; three brothers, Brett Perryman of Lodi, California, Private Benjamin Pinx, who is stationed with the U.S. Army in Wurzberg, Germany, and Jerry Pinx of Wagoner; two sisters, Julia Perryman of Wagoner and Karen Perryman of Pryor; and a number of aunts and uncles from coast to coast.

REV. ALMER BERRYHILL

Services for the Rev. Almer W. Berryhill, 54, of Henryetta were held September 10 at 2:00 p.m. at Honey Creek United Methodist Church with the Rev. Joe Lowe Jr officiating, assisted by the Rev. Willie Gooden. Interment was held in the Berryhill Family Cemetery under the direction of Shurden Funeral Home.

The Rev. Berryhill was born January 7, 1933 in Henryetta and died September 7 in Okmulgee. He was preceded in death by his father, the late Rev. John Berryhill and his mother Amy Randall Berryhill. Rev. Berryhill served as Pastor at Arkansas City Church in Kansas, Salt Creek U.M.C. Thlopthlocco U.M.C. and Newtown United Methodist Church. He was a member of Honeycreek United Methodist Church, and married Meloise Sue Fish, January 30, 1970.

Survivors include his wife, Melosie Sue Berryhill of the home; sons, Jonathan Berryhill, Larry Gene Berryhill of the home; Almer Berryhill, Jr., and Tony Berryhill; daughters, Kathy Berryhill and Patricia Berryhill, sisters Lucille Bear, Christine Harjo and Dicey Barnett, all of Henryetta; and brother Walter Berryhill of Oklahoma City.

In Memory Of Reverend Almer Berryhill

By Donna Washington

Our Savior calls His laborers
from all walks of life,
His work must go on
be it day or night;

Reverend Almer Berryhill was
of great distinction,
He was called by the Master
for his life of dedication.

Almer obeyed the call and
immediately began his mission.
In the year of eight-five, we
at Newtown received his attention.
He was a Pastor beyond reproach,
and we all loved him very much;
He was always busy in the pulpit
or on the church grounds, and
sometimes working in the
Sanctuary he was found.

Then one day, God called him
saying, "Almer, come home.
Your work on earth at last is done."
He answered the call, as we all
must do, and we must be sure
to Him we've been true.

His last days were trying and,
no doubt, sometimes painful,
But he knew what it meant
to be faithful; and faithful
he was to his Savior above, and
now he is resting in His
wonderful love.

He can't come back to us, we know
But where he is we can be also;
if we put our trust in Jesus,
our Lord, and live according
to His precious word.

Butler Creek Church Schedules Revival

Butler Creek Baptist Church is announcing their fall revival beginning November 2 to 6th at 7:30 p.m each night. The speaker will be Reverend Bill Tiger of Shawnee, OK. Many Muscogee hymns and English songs will be sung.

JOE TIGER

Funeral services for Joe Tiger were held September 15 at the Trinity Baptist Church in Hanna. Rev. Frank Billy officiated the service.

Mr. Tiger was born March 25, 1910 at Hanna and died September 9th.

Survivors include two sons, Jimmy Tiger of Hugo and Billy Tiger of California, two nieces and two nephews.

Will Sampson Research Fund is Established

A Scleroderma Research Fund has been established in the name of Creek actor, Will Sampson, by the Sclerderma Research Foundation, according to Roy Bishop, Director of Development. The proceeds of this memorial to the native Oklahoman, will be used exclusively for research into the disease. The foundation seeks to find the cause, treatment and cure of this disabling disease, which took the life of Sampson in recent months. To contribute, contact the Foundation at Box 200, Columbus, NJ 08022.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

The Family of Rev. Almer Berryhill wish to express their gratitude for your many kindnesses shown in thought and deed. Many thank you's for flowers, food, prayers and words of encouragement. Poem written by Mrs. Dona Washington of Newtown U.M. Church **In Memory of Reverend Almer Berryhill.**

Little Coweta Church Fall Revival, Oct. 19-24

Come experience the fellowship and excitement as Little Coweta holds their Fall Revival with Evangelist Phillip Wade. For more information or transportation call 689-2435.

Eufaula Indian Community Elects Annual Officers

On Tuesday, Sept. 15, 1987, the Eufaula Indian Community met for the purpose of electing officers. The following officers were elected, Frank E. Kamp, Chairman, Kenneth Tiger, Vice-Chairman, Van McIntosh, Treasurer, Joann Barnett, Secretary and members of the board, Jon Tiger, Bobby Jones and James Charles.

The person elected to office will hold office until September 1988.

Creek Deer Clan Plans Announced

Tentative plans are currently being made for a reunion of the Creek Deer Clan. This reunion is scheduled for the 1988 Creek Nation Festival to be held next June.

All intersested members of the Creek Deer Clan are encouraged to get in touch with George Bell, 1401 N. Griffin, Okmulgee.

Creek on Leave. . .

A1C Michael Winap, son of Emma Jacobs, Henryetta, is back on leave from Eglin AFB, Florida. Michael completed training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio, TX. He is a F-100 jet engine mechanic. He wishes to say hello to all friends and relatives.

For Your Good Health-

Dr. Carol Hanson, a new physician at CN Community Hospital, cares for a young patient at the hospital.

CN Hospital Selects New Physician

Dr. Carol Hanson recently joined the medical staff at Creek Nation Community Hospital, announced Danny Vaughan, acting administrator at the facility. She works primarily in the hospital and assists at other clinics as needed.

Dr. Hanson says she's particularly pleased with her new position primarily because it's giving her the opportunity to work with a variety of patient's health care needs.

"We really see a large number of patients, young and old, with many different illnesses and severity of illnesses," she comments. "I like the independence that I have in making decisions, yet having other physicians nearby in case I need a consultant."

"Of course, the main reason I'm here and the reason I became a physician is because I enjoy working with people, "Dr. Hanson points out. "The work is stimulating, challenging, educational, but very enjoyable." She also appreciates the small town hospital environment.

"The (hospital) staff is very nice and they work together well," she says. "I think they're very patient oriented, too. That means coming back to the hospital in the middle of the night to care for a patient or to run tests. They do a great job of keeping the physicians up-to-date with test results and patients' health statuses."

Dr. Hanson, who was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, got her start in the medical arena as a nurse. She graduated from the University of Tulsa with a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1978, worked at St. Francis Hospital and later served as the director of cardiac rehabilitation at Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital before making a career change.

She was admitted to the Oklahoma School of Osteopathic Medicine in Tulsa, a four year program followed by one year of post graduate study.

The one-year program is a rotating internship in which doctors provide hands on care in a variety of specialized medical settings, such as care for children, heart patients, emergency room patients, and others.

With a keen interest in wellness, or the concept of helping the public help themselves avoid illness/disease by adopting a healthier lifestyle, Dr. Hanson said she plans to implement patient teaching as a part of her care programs.

"People need to know the long term effects of smoking, lack of exercise and overeating," she explains. "These things make a difference of the quality of lives we lead."

If her medical practice at Creek Nation Community Hospital isn't enough to keep her busy, Dr.Hanson also has a physician husband in private practice and a three-year-old son, who stays in their home city of Tulsa while she travels to Okemah to treat the medical needs of area patients.

Hanson said she's eager to meet members of the Creek population and encourages them to look for her at the hospital.

CANCER QUESTIONS?
1-800
4-CANCER

For facts about prevention, early
detection, treatment, patient
care, and community resources
Call toll-free
1-800-4-CANCER
Oklahoma Cancer
Information Service

Dr. Kathryn Black

Dr. James Black

Wife/Husband Physician Team at CNCH-

Treating one patient after another throughout the busy day with the same skill and enthusiasm is not an easy task. Yet, Dr. Kathryn Black spends Monday through Friday meeting the health care needs of patients at the Creek Nation Community Hospital Clinic.

"Sure, its demanding work," Dr. Black pointed out. "But, it's also very rewarding because the patients are appreciative and also because I know I'm helping them back on the road to recovery."

Dr. Black likes caring for entire families and feels she's at an advantage because she has the opportunity to treat everyone from grandmothers to infants.

Sometimes knowing that a parent has a disease or illness may help in the diagnoses of an illness for a child, she pointed out. Dr. Black also noted that because she treats every age group, she keeps her skills keen in nearly all phases of medicine.

"Medicine is fascinating," she commented about her career. "I thoroughly enjoy working with and helping people."

Dr. Black is a graduate of Arizona State University with a bachelor's of science degree in Zoology. After pursuing a master's in health services administration, she opted for medical school and obtained a degree from the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Pamona, California. She later served a one-year medical internship at Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital in Tulsa.

"The internship was beneficial because we did rotations through many areas of medicine," she explained. Some of the areas included family practice, surgery, othopedics, internal medicine, pediatrics, emergency medicine, and obstetrics.

Even before she finished her internship, Dr. Black had already set her goals, one of which is to help patients about how to prevent illnesses.

"It's very important to me to help people understand that from infancy to adulthood and beyond, illness can be prevented," she said. "Before you get sick is the time to think about your health, not after you're already sick.

She urged patients to take advantage of such clinic programs as the diabetes clinic. Sometimes dieticians are present at the diabetes clinic to answer questions, physicians present materials and regular instructors help diabetics understand and live with their disease.

The Creek Nation Community Hospital Clinic is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a lunch break from noon to 1 p.m. Additionally, the clinic is open on Wednesday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Dr. Black is married to Dr. James Black, who serves as a physician at Creek Nation Community Hospital.

Dr. James Black finds his new medical practice at Creek Nation Community Hospital refreshing and stimulating. He says the Okemah medical practice enables him to provide more personalized, individualized care than if he were in a metropolitan area.

"Practicing medicine at Creek Nation Community Hospital helps me meet my ultimate career goal, which is to do the best job I can for every patient," Dr. Black comments. "This is more challenging work than you'd find in a larger community because we don't have a ready supply of specialists to rely upon--we have to depend on ourselves." Dr. Black is joined by other physicians at Creek Nation Community Hospital including Dr. Carol Hanson and Dr. Kathryn Black, who also happens to be his wife.

He explained that the three physicians frequently consult with one another on patient cases. Additionally, they have the option of sending patients to other cities for specialty care facilities if the case can not be handled at Creek Nation Community Hospital.

Dr. Black primarily covers the health care needs of patients in the hospital, as does Dr. Hanson. Dr. Kathryn Black provides medical care for patients at the clinic. Occasionally, however, Drs. Black and Hanson will provide backup for the clinic.

Even though Dr. Black's father is also a doctor of osteopathy, he didn't realize until after graduation that he wanted to pursue a degree in medicine.

"I went to college on a scholarship in agriculture, and later switched to chemical engineering," he remembers. He graduated from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas with a bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1981.

Realizing an interest in medicine, he later was accepted at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, in Pamona, California. He came to Oklahoma for an internship at the Oklahoma Osteopathic Hospital in Tulsa, and began his medical practice in Okemah July 2, 1987.

"Medicine is a career in which you can never stop learning," he comments. "I feel compelled to continue learning, because there are always changes taking place in health care."

"I enjoy dealing with people, I like people contact," he points out. "I'm not the type who could not work as pathologist since they have little patient contact. *(Continued Next Page)*

Indian Health Care Professionals Increase, Benefits Indian Health

Among American Indians, severe health problems continue to be a heavy burden despite more than three decades of stepped-up efforts by the federal government to expand health care for those who live on and off the reservations. By the Census Bureau's reckoning, there are about 1.4 million Native Americans living in the United States.

The state of their health is reflected in an annual death rate that is 1.4 times greater than that of all Americans. While the U.S average is 568 deaths each year per 100,000 people, the Indian average is 778. In some areas, it is above 1,200, according to a congressional report.

Nearly two out of every five Indians (37 percent) die before they reach age 45. Only 12 percent of all Americans die before that age.

Many of the health problems plaguing Indians derive from the despair and deprivation of reservation life. Alcoholism is prevalent; death rates from cirrhosis of the liver are four times higher among Indians than among the general population. Alcohol is also associated with the unusually high death rates among Indians for accidents, murder and suicide.

One encouraging sign for efforts to improve that dismal health record is the emergence of a corps of physicians and other health-care professionals of Indian heritage.

The 1980 U.S. census counted 510 physicians who considered themselves to be Indians. Using a more restrictive definition, based on tribal membership and a clear cultural background, the Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) estimates that there are about 300 Indian doctors.

The association, based in Oklahoma City, has grown to the size that it holds an annual convention-this year July 26-29, in Spokane, Washington for its members to share their experience and ideas.

Many of the Indian physicians of today have benefited from federal programs that help young Indians receive pre-medial and medical training. While the proportion of Indian doctors is still small (there are about 21 Indian doctors for every 100,000 Indians, compared with about 220 doctors per 100,000 in the general population), the number is a vast improvement over a few decades ago.

The AAIP estimates that about half of the Indian doctors work on reservations. There are only 30 Indians, however, among the 700 doctors with the Indian Health Service (IHS), the federal agency that provides medical care to most Indians. The current head of the agency, Dr. Everett R. Rhoades, is the first IHS director of Indian descent. He is a Kiowa Indian from Oklahoma.

According to Terry Hunter, executive director of the AAIP, one of the key contributions of Indian physicians is to help overcome the cultural divide between doctor and patient that is often seen on the reservation.

Creek Nation Community Hospital Receive Top JCAH Accreditation

Creek Nation Community Hospital has been awarded a Certificate of Accreditation by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals (JCAH). JCAH accreditation is evidence of Creek Nation Community Hospital's efforts to provide quality health care.

"We view the accreditation both as an accomplishment and as an indicator to our patients that we are dedicated to providing top quality health medical services," said Principal Chief Claude Cox. "Creek Nation Community Hospital offers patients the best of health care including quality staff, equipment and services."

The benefits of accreditation include providing the hospital with on-site evaluation based on realistic, nationally recognized standards. Additionally, the hospital staff receives consultation and education to help them in their self-improvement efforts, as well as motivation to improve services and care within the hospital. Another benefit lies in attracting employees; health care professionals often select a health care worksite based on whether it is JCAH accredited.

"There are many reasons for JCAH Accreditation, but the main one is that it assures our patients that Creek Nation Community Hospital is committed to providing quality care," Chief Cox pointed out.

To become accredited, the hospital voluntarily requested an on-site evaluation by JCAH surveyors who applied standards designed to further the objectives of quality patient care and the safety of the environment in which that care is provided.

"These national standards represent a consensus among health care professionals and are periodically updated to reflect changes in health care delivery," said Nettie Scott, Chairman of the Board of Health Affairs of Creek Nation Community Hospital.

The JCAH survey team consists of health care professionals trained to evaluate the hospital's efforts to provide quality care. The surveyors also consult with the professional and administrative staffs to help them in their efforts to continually improve patient care.

ASK YOUR DENTIST. . .

By Dr. Kim leavenworth
CN Okmulgee Dental Clinic

Do You Have Any Of The Seven Warning Signs Of Gum Disease?

1.) Bleeding gums when you clean your teeth.
2.) Bad breath.
3.) Soft, Swollen or tender gums.
4.) Pus from the gum line or pressing.
5.) Loose teeth.
6.) Gums shrinking away from teeth.
7.) Any change in the way your teeth come together.

Any yes answer may mean you have gum disease.

Gum disease results from harmful bacteria infecting the tissue which surrounds the teeth. As bacteria multiply they form an invisible film (plaque) on teeth. Plaque build-up along the gum line causes your gum tissue to become red, puffy, sore and likely to bleed. This sticky film should be removed daily by brushing and flossing.

If you don't remove plaque daily, it gradually hardens into calculus (tartar) helping to force the gums away from your teeth. Pockets of infection form between the teeth and gums. If left unchecked, the disease attacks and destroys the supporting bone. If you allow the disease to progress, you can lose your teeth.

Remember....remove plaque daily by brushing and flossing. Examine your mouth for the seven warning signs. Work with your dentist to keep your teeth all your life.

AIDS Epidemic Hits Indian Population

AIDS has invaded Indian reservations across the nation and the deadly disease could be the equivalent of "genocide" for smaller tribes, says the chief physician for the Navajos.

Dr. Ben Muneta,chief medical officer for the Navajo Nation Department of Health, says because the disease is spreading so quickly among heterosexual Indians and can be passed onto children at birth-usually killing them before age two-it could wipe out entire tribes.

"It can saturate all the childbearing members of a tribe," he said. "In extreme cases, it can be a form of genocide."

Muneta said most Indian cultures have little homophobia and may engage in bisexual relationships that would spread acquired immune deficiency syndrome quickly through the heterosexual population.

The Navajos did not have a reported case of AIDS as of last December. Now, the tribe has 39 cases, the last being reported last week, he said.

"They're all popping up this year," he said. "This is a huge issue. The potential result (on Indian tribes) is more devastating."

If the disease spreads among Indians at the rate it does in the general population the Navajos will have 200 cases by 1991. But if it follows the projected trends for blacks, Hispanics and other minorities, the number of cases will hit 400 to 600, Muneta said.

"That's double the bed space we have in our clinics," Muneta said.

But the Navajos, whose 200,000 members makes them the largest tribe in America,probably won't be as endangered as many small tribes.

Of the 300 tribes in America, only about 80 have populations over 300, Muneta said.

"There are alot of smaller tribes with just a few people," he said. "But with every tribe it will start popping up sooner or later."

CN Community Hospital: AIDS Awareness

Just hearing the words Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, or AIDS, can make many people in today's society cringe. Yet experts now feel that by understanding the disease and the defenses against it,people can lower their chances of contracting the often fatal disease.

According to physicians at Creek Nation Community Hospital, the human body has built-in defense mechanisms, beginning with the skin and mucous membrane lining of the mouth and nose. Once the invader is passed, white blood cells, specifically lymphocytes and macrophages, begin to work on the invading bodies.

Lymphocytes come in two forms, T cells and B cells. The B cells are involved with the pouring out of proteins, including immunoglobulins, which are for the purpose of destroying the invader. The T cells are in charge of directing the B cells where and when to work on the invading bodies. When the T cells are not working properly, the invading organism is able to run rampant because the white blood cells will not act against them.

Physicians at Creek Nation Community Hospital believe this to be the basis of AIDS. The AIDS disease is thought to be carried by a virus, Human-T-Lymphocytic Virus III, which keep the T cells from defending the body properly. The invader is allowed to multiply at will.

The body is not the only defense system against AIDS, however. People who are not currently AIDS victims should avoid multiple sex partners, due to the increasing number of heterosexual and homosexual victims, and taking drugs intravenously. Transmission of the disease is also possible through blood transfusions. Yet many institutions are now screening possible donors to lower the risk of further spread. According to the physicians at Creek Nation Community Hospital, when blood is necessary for survival, blood transfusions must be accepted.

The symptoms for AIDS are much like those of the flu; fever, sweats, weight loss, fatigue, loss of appetite, and diarrhea. Blood tests are available to determine if an individual has been exposed to AIDS. Exposed, though, does not mean that the individual has AIDS. Further tests must be run to determine if one has the disease. Research is currently underway to find a cure for the disease.

Anyone with questions about AIDS and its prevention may contact Creek Nation Community Hospital at 918-623-1424. Also available is a national hotline to answer questions about this problem. The hotline number is 1-800-342-2437.

Dr. James Black Continued. . .

Pleased with the hospital staff members, Dr. Black said they are well-trained and qualified and genuinely care about the patients. "Patients know when employees care about them, and I think this hospital is a good example that bigger isn't always better."

Drs. James and Kathryn Black live in Henryetta, and are pleased with the refreshing, rural setting. Dr. James Black is a captain in the U.S. Army Reserves Medical Corp and drills with the unit. They are attached to the 44th evacuation hospital in Oklahoma City and meet one weekend per month.

I'm interested in helping people learn more about how to prevent illnesses from occurring," he comments. "If we stopped smoking, lost weight, adopted better diets, and reduced our stress levels, we'd all feel and look better and probably wouldn't have to visit the hospital as frequently."

The rock at Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church, located west of Eufaula, has been a constant reminder to the members of its history, strength, and endurance.

Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church— Built Upon "The Rock" of Faith

By Rita Williams

"Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Lying motionless, unmoveable and without life is a 'rock' that can be found making its home on the southside of the Tuskegee Indian Baptist Church grounds, located west of Eufaula, Okla.

The Tuskegee Indians of that area are familiar with this huge rock that has been used to serve since the time of its discovery.

In the 1800's, an Indian woman missionary, Annie Armstrong, stood 'upon this rock' to speak to the Tuskegee church members.

Before the church was built, just a few feet north of the church, the Tuskegee ceremonial grounds could be found. The ancient sounds of turtle shells, songs and the silhouettes of dancers around the fire at night has long been silent. But, 'upon this rock' members of the grounds would use it as a resting place.

For hundreds of years the church has held its fourth Sunday and the bell would toll, beckoning members and visitors to come--but, also has tolled in remembrance of many departed members. "Upon this rock, they ate, children played and have used it to crack nuts upon," as one member told, when she was young.

According to Leona Colbert, Historian for the Muscogee, Witchita, and Seminole Baptist Association, a piece of this rock was removed and also placed in a fireplace in the Smithsonian Institute.

Value is not given until its worth is discovered. A stone-step from the first church building was taken and placed in a fireplace in the Arts Lodge at Bacone College. This was done as the college wanted to feature historical momentos from every Indian Nation or Historical place significant to the Indians of America.

Located a few yards west of the rock stands an old oak tree, known to the members as the "whipping tree," used for disciplinary actions under the old Creek Tribal law.

The elements of time have been good to this rock, perhaps they are friends.

The rock has served for many years and is still continuing to serve, as long as Tuskegee stands and there are Creek Indians still here!

Creek Nation - Our Rock

Symbolically, one might view 'the rock' as the Creek Nation, with the God-given quality of strength to endure thus far, having weathered many storms, serviced Indian people for many occasions, and has seen many changes.

From the very beginning, all Native American tribes have possessed a God-given quality of strength and inheritance to endure thus far.

Each has its own unique "Trail of Tears," engulfed with hardships, having paid the supreme sacrifice, ushered on with the spirit to survive.

But, through it all, this fact still remains, "We as a nation of Indians, are still here!"

The Creek Nation, as we so proudly call ourselves, and rightly so! should never forget the former days. A certain Creek man recently stated, "Deep within a red man is the hunger to belong somewhere and with that hunger comes the thirst of knowledge to find out who you belong to and where you came from."

" Voices of ancient came whispering on the wind,
As I searched for knowledge, they began to descend,
Instructing ever so careful such powerful wisdom,
The hunger for knowledge would soon find its freedom,"

Be proud of who you are, learn why you have survived as a nation, forget not your ways, and teach your children, so they may teach their children."

There is untold history lying dormant in our nation waiting to be unearthed.

One definition of history is this, "The branch of knowledge that records and analyzes past events."

Let us never forget the lesson of strength and endurance our history has taught us.

Muscogee Indian Community Hold First Annual Indian Arts & Crafts Festival

By Turner Harjo

The Muscogee Indian Community will host its first Annual Indian Arts and Crafts Festival; Friday and Saturday October 16 and 17. The program will have Gospel singing, cultural films and plains Indian drumming and singing, Traditional dances demonstration, food sale; hot dogs, chili and fried bread. All craftmen and vendors are welcome. 20% of all sales goes to the MIC and 80% goes to artists and craftpersons.

All activities will be held at 111 So. Virginia St., Muskogee, Ok.

In financial preparation for this event the Muscogee Indian Community will serve dinner at the next Muscogee Creek Council meeting; the menu will be Chicken and Dumplin's, Vegetable/salad, cole slaw, beans, fried bread, dessert, tea, coffee and Sofkey. All the above mentioned for $3.00. We would hope all council members and Creek citizens would support in as we would support other Communities in their efforts for self sufficiency. Remember September 26, 1987 at 12:00 to 1:00 dinner and come to the council meeting.

In keeping with our financial endeavors we will also have a bake sale at Curt's Mall on October 3rd. We will have cookies, cakes, pies, fried bread, tea and coffee.

Those in our area are encouraged to come buy, if you can't buy at least come out to support morally.

The community thinks this is a good thing for the community and will be a continued effort. If you think it is a good cause as we do, come visit us Oct. 16 and 17.

Letter From Evangelist Ernest Best

"Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him. But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked." Isaiah 53: 19-21

We are living in a tremendously restless nation. There is continual activity. People are searching for fulfillment and meaning in life. We see it among our Indian brethren. Much is being done through self-help programs, education, and community action. These things are good, and should be done. The body must be fed and sheltered. The individual needs to be trained and educated. However, man is not just a two part being. After the bodily needs are met, the mind educated, and the material needs provided, there is still a large void in every person's life. The spiritual needs of man must also be met. This can only be done through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I visited recently on a reservation in Nebraska and talked with a tribal leader. I was told that even though they teach their people not to be involved in alcohol, alcohol is still their greatest problem, and is demoralizing and killing them. There is no Bible preaching church on that reservation. Alcohol is only a symptom of the real problem. The problem is within the heart of man. Man's outward actions are like the debris that is cast upon the shore by the continually rolling tides of the ocean. It casts forth whatever is in it's depths. There is no peace! Peace can come only from God, through his Son. When one accepts Christ, His blood cleans away the debris from within and leave peace in it's place. His Holy Spirit dwells within to give the strength needed to leave alcohol, drugs, or whatever has control of a person's life. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

We were in northern Wisconsin during the month of September. I preached revivals in two Pottawatomi and one Chippewa churches. We praise God, there were some saved and many came for prayer, added spiritual strength and rededication of their lives. There are not many Christians on these reservations and the pressure on the few Christians is tremendous. We praise God for those who are living for Him. We are thankful to see some young adult men and women coming to the Lord. This is not a very common thing.

The northern woods of Wisconsin are breathtaking at this time of the year. We stand of awe of the the blazing beauty of God's creation. We are thankful He allowed us to be here during this season.

Before this letter reaches you, I will have gone to a village in Canada, which has never had a church. Please pray for this village-Lac La Croix. I will be giving my testimony and preaching. There is a Chippewa man trying to start a work there. Pray that God will open their hearts to the gospel and the Holy Spirit will use the messages I will leave with them.

Pray also for the reservation in Nebraska. There are actually two reservations, the Omaha and Winnebago. God willing we will be going there early next year for a meeting. Pray that God will open the door for a church to be started there.

We thank you for your prayers, your letters of encouragement, and your faithful financial support. We praise God for you, our co-laborers and friends.

Your Missionaries to the
North American Indians,
Bro. Ernest, Bennie, and Jerry Best

Birth Announcement—

Daniel Dean Wind IV

Winds Announce Birth Of Second Son-

Daniel and Stephanie Wind of Okmulgee are proud to announce the birth of their son, "Daniel Dean Wind IV" who was born on August 14, 1987 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

Daniel weighed 7 lbs, 15 oz., and was 20 inches long.

Upon his arrival home Daniel IV was welcomed home by his brother Christopher and sister,Krystal, great-grandparents, Jackson and Beatrice Deere of Tulsa.

Daniel's maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bob Carmona of Okmulgee and Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Wind Jr. of Henryetta.

Bettina Beth Beaver

Tarpalachee/Beaver Announce Daughter Tina

Tina Tarpalachee and Richard Beaver wish to announce the birth of their daughter, Bettina Beth Beaver, born September 12 and weighing seven pounds and four ounces. Maternal grandparents are Henry and Elizabeth Tarpalachee.

Tulsa Optimist Club Honors Creek Student

Recently, the Optimist Club of Tulsa honored Ms. Claudia Tyner as their Student of the Month.

Claudia, 14, is a member of the Creek, Shawnee and Seneca tribes. She attends Booker T. Washington High School in Tulsa, Oklahoma where she is an honor student and also serves as the Sophomore Class Treasurer. She is an active member of the BTW Indian Club, BTW Volleyball team, Indian Pupil Education Volleyball team and the IPE Dance Troupe. She is also a member of the Native American Church.

The past two years, Claudia has participated in the Gifted and Talented Program for Indian Children held at Riverside Indian School in Anadarko, Oklahoma. This past year she was elected Vice-Chairperson of the Tribal Council

Claudia is the daughter of Claude and Belinda Tyner. She has one sister, Vera,and two brothers, Mekko and Joe Willie. Her paternal grandparents are William and Vera Tyner of Tulsa. Her maternal grandmother was the late Julia Harjo Byrd.

Barry W. Brandon

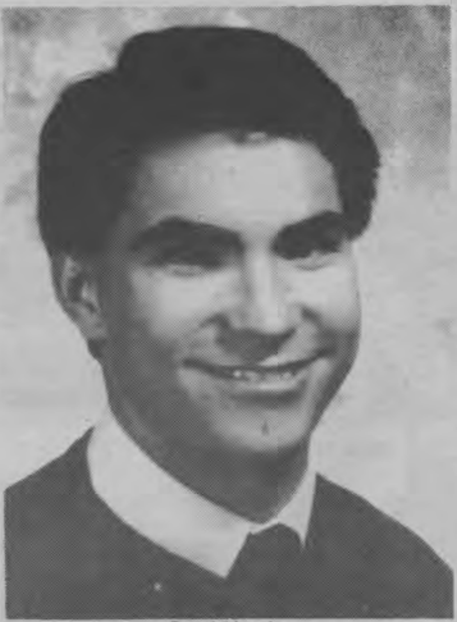
Creek Receives Degree From WU School of Law

Barry W. Brandon, a Creek living in Seattle, Washington, recently received his law degree from the University of Washington School of Law. Barry, 26, is the grandson of Wayne and May (Perryman) McHenry of Midwest City and the son of Noel and Jeri (McHenry) Brandon of Renton, Washington.

Barry was a recipient of the Special Scholarship in law for American Indians granted by the BIA as well as a beneficiary of Higher Education grants provided by the Creek Nation. He is a member of the American Indian Law Students Association.

He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington, in 1983. Before attending law school, he spent a year working in the Washington State Legislature. During that time, Barry served as a legislative assistant to Washington State Senator Al Williams and as a committee staff member on the State Joint Select Committee on Telecommunications.

During law school, Barry worked as a legal intern in the Washington State Attorney Generals office and for the Seattle law firm of Tewell, Thorpe and Findlay.



Brad Harris

Creek Student Wins Discus Championship

Brad Harris 15 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Harris of Great Bend, Ks. accomplished one of his goal's in August at Syracuse, New York. He won the National Jr. Olympics title for his age group in the discus. His winning throw was 156 feet. Along with receiving the gold medal the AAU gave him a pair of track shoes.

Brad, at 6'3" and 190 pounds is a Sophomore at Great Bend High School and is on the Track and Football teams. Brad is Euchee Indian and has lots of relatives in the Sapulpa and Pickett area. He's the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. B.L. Harris of Plainville, KS.

Hiyadeja Jones

Creek Chosen MVP

Hiyadeja R. Jones, Creek, was chosen the "Most Valuable Player" and made the All-Star team of the Broken Bow, Ok, Jaycee baseball (t-ball) summer program.

She has played the short stop position and is the first girl chosen for the MVP award. Hiyadeja is the nine year old daughter of Marcella and Billy Ray Jones of Broken Bow. She has one younger sister Shanna Rae Jones.

Her grandparents are Lucille Bear of Henryetta and Martha Jones of Broken Bow

Sehoya Tecumseh

Creek Student Places 2nd In Photography Contest

Sehoya Tecumseh Creek/Cherokee a seventh grade student at Twin Hills School was awarded four ribbons in the Okmulgee County Fair.

Sehoya entered in the photography division exhibits entering four photographs in four separate categories, receiving Second Place in three categories, People; Animals and Comedy; and Fourth Place in the Scenic category. This was her first time entering in the Photography Division.

Judging criteria was based on Print quality 20% - included focus, true color and contrast. Composition 50% - included background, lighting of subject, subject in comparison to total picture. Interest of Viewer 30% - included public appeal, correct category and color vs. black and white.

Sehoya enjoys school, basketball and cross stitching. Her career goal is to become a Dentist and to serve in the United States Navy.

Sehoya is the daughter of Anita Freeman of Okmulgee and Andrew Tecumseh of rural Okmulgee; granddaughter of Hepsey Freeman of Shawnee, Ks., Robert Freeman of Okmulgee and Evelyn and the late Andy Tecumseh of rural Okmulgee. She is also the great-grand daugther of Celia Berryhill and Emma Tecumseh both of rural Okmulgee.

Creek Places First in Seminole County Fair

Esther Jo Yargee of Justice School, Wewoka, has recently won 1st place in the Seminole County Fair Dog Obedience Class.

This was Esther's first year participating in the dog obedience class.

She received a trophy for the Beginner's Division in the Seminole County 4-H.

Esther will compete in the State Fair of Oklahoma and other areas.

Esther is in the 5th grade at Justice School and is a Creek, Euchee, Cherokee Indian. She is the daughter of Tarpie and Amy Yargee of Wewoka.

Region 8 "All-Around" Title Goes To Cherokee Cowboy Dee Keener-

-Photo By Helen Chalakee

Dee Keener Receives the 1987 Region Eight All-Around Cowboy *saddle at the finals held in Tahlequah, Oklahoma during the Labor Day Week-end.*

By Rita Williams

The Region Eight All-Indian Rodeo Association held their finals in Tahlequah, Oklahoma over the Labor day week-end.

Dee Keener, 21, from Inola, Oklahoma won the title of, 1987 Region Eight All-Around Cowboy.

Keener has won a total of six All-Around saddles and a number of buckles over a two year period. He will be representing Oklahoma for his third consecutive year in the Calf Roping event at the Indian National Finals to be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The young cowboys roping ability is only a portion of his character. According to Bob Davis, one of the Board of Directors for Region Eight, "Dee has come far and quick for the last two years and is a top notch guy in and out of the arena."

The Indian finals drew hundreds of spectators each night observing Indian cowboys of many different tribes compete with the hopes of 'making it to the finals'- a cowboys dream.

The finals were sponsored by these corporations and their representatives present were; Levi-Strauss,Chuck Tsoodle of Oklahoma City, Coors, Stephanie Hare of Denver, Colorado, Skoal/Copenhagen, Pete Sanchez of Lewisville, Texas, Chevy Truck, Sonny O'Hern of Okmulgee, Okla and Pepsi.

The Seminole Rodeo Club kicked off the 1988 rodeo season September 18, 19th, putting the Region way ahead of its scheduled rodeos.

The Seminole Club hosted the 2 day event at the Elks Rodeo arena, one of the finest arenas the region has been to.

The highlight of the rodeo was Saturday night, When Brad Fish, a Creek Indian bull rider from Harrah, Oklahoma drew the 557 Levis Challenge bull. If the cowboy rode the full eight second whistle, there was a $1100 purse attached. As soon as the chute gate opened, the crowds spirits were high, cheering him all the way. The crowd had expectations of this cowboys riding ability to stay with every turn and roll. Brad has proved himself before by representing Oklahoma in Albuquerque, N.M in 1985.

The ride brought the spectators to their feet and needless to say, happy wife over the fence.

Listed are the results of the Tahlequah Finals. These cowboys will be the ones to go to Albuquerque. The first one listed is the Year-End winner and then the Region Eight Finals winner.

The Region would like to remind the members of their cards being good until December 31st of 1987.

Bareback

James Duffield-Cherokee-Tahlequah
Tim Jacobs-Sioux-South Dakota

Saddlebronc

T.O Yazzie-Navajo-Tulsa
Jess Knight-Sioux-Saganaw,Texas

Calf Roping

Dee Keener-Cherokee-Inola
Sonny Victor-Cherokee-

Steer Wrestling

Alan Murdaugh-Creek-Stuart
Chris Rock-Cherokee-Checotah

Barrel Racing

Sissy Williams-Choctaw-Arkansas
Kerri Adams-Stuart

Team Roping

Tarz Foreman-Cherokee-Oaks
Keith Bacon-Cherokee-Durant
Mike Bacon-Cherokee-Boswell

Bull Riding

Tommy Trott-Cherokee-Nicoma Park
Mika Calico-Cherokee-Stilwell

Jr. Barrels

Kerri Adams-Stuart

Scottsdale All-Indian Arts & Crafts Competition Set

The Second Annual Scottsdale All-Indian Fine Arts and Crafts Open Competition, will be held at Scottsdale Community College, Scottsdale, AZ, Easter week-end, April 1, 2 and 3, 1988.

The event's sponsor, Scottsdale Native American Indian Cultural Foundation, has announced that the College, under the direction, of Dr. Art De Cabotter, will again provide facilities and assistance in staging the Art show. All aspects of Indian arts and crafts, both traditional and contemporary, will be covered in the 1988 juried show. Awards, traditionally donated by Scottsdale business owners, Native American art collectors and supporters, are anticipated to exceed $15,000.

As in the first Open Competition, invited judges for the 1988 show are well known for their specialities in one or more categories of Indian arts and crafts and consist of a combination of famous Indian artisans and experts in the Indian art world.

The Foundation's first attempt at a juried art show, held Easter week-end of this year, was conceived and put into place by the group in order to fill the gap which has existed in the Indian art field for juried shows. The 1987 judging team, headed by John and Clara Lee Tanner, agreed that the response by the artists was exceptional. The judges expressed their delight in both the quality and quantity of the art work and enthusiastically preceived it as being one of the finer collections gathered together for their judging.

During the 1987 competition, Loren Phillips, Hopi, who entered in the Kachinas/Carvings classification, not only won in Division D, Kachinas-Conceptual, but walked away with both Best of Show and Best of Class for his "Eagle Kachina." Two Grand Awards were given out: Bah Yazzie Ashley Navajo, won in Textiles, Vegetal dyes for "Wide Ruins", and Ted Charveze, Isleta, in the category of Jewelry, Gold.

In addition to these fine artists and craftsmen, one of the most exciting parts of the show was that a number of little known artists picked up ribbons and monetary awards for their work. For example, among the winners of 21 special awards, four of them won Best of Class and five Native American artists were presented with a Memorial Award. It is important to note that many of the Indian artisans and craftworkers who entered this first open competition had never had the opportunity of competing on a national level before the Foundation's 1987 show.

The Foundation have credit to the Native American newspapers throughout the country for the participation of the large number of unknown artists. Most of the artists reported that they had read about the competition in a Native American newspaper; the newspapers correctly printed that the Fine Arts and Crafts Competition was open to all Indian artisans of North America whose works had been created within the past calendar year and not previously entered in competition.

Request for entry blanks for the 1988 show should be addressed to Chairperson Peggy Fairchild, 1988 All-Indian Arts and Crafts Juried Show, PO Box 8667, Scottsdale, AZ 85252-8667. The forms will be available to be mailed out by November, 1987. However, Fairchild urges each person who wishes to enter, to request their entry blanks as soon as possible.

The goals of the Scottsdale All-Indian Arts and Crafts Open Competition are to develop the needs of the artists and to encourage their ambitions and education by giving them a professional opportunity to present their talents, gain recognition and win monetary prizes. Formerly, all major art competitions for Indian artists have been invitationals offered by non-Indian groups which are usually commercially oriented.

All of the entries in the 1988 Open Competition will be on display and for sale April 1-3, 1988, (Friday, Saturday and Sunday), 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Scottsdale Community College. Public admission $2.00 person; $5.00 for a family. A special invitational Preview night will be held Thursday, March 31, 1988.

The All-Indian Open Art Competition will again be held during Scottsdale All-Indian Pow-Wow Days. The Pow-Wow will begin noon Friday, April 1, 1988, on the athletic field of the college. Admission to the Pow Wow is free to the public during the three day event. Scottsdale Native American Indian Cultural Foundation also sponsors the Pow-Wow.

Indian Export Legislation Introduced by Senator—

Washington-Senator Jeff Bingaman on July 8 introduced and the Senate passed legislation to stimulate the export of American Indian arts and crafts.

Senator Pete Domenici (R—NM) joined Bingaman as a cosponsor of the legislation.

Bingaman's measure, an amendment to the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act now under consideration in the Senate, authorized the Secretary of Commerce to make grants to increase such exports.

"The economies of American Indian tribes are depressed," Bingaman said in a statement introducing his amendment. "We owe it to them and to our own economic well being to promote their unique products overseas. Traders familiar with Navajo goods, for instance, estimate that some 3,000 weavers and 2,000 silversmiths could earn up to $1,000 a month if their products were effectively marketed. Exports of Navajo arts and crafts are currently about $15 million, mostly to West Germany and Italy. These exports could easily reach $40 million a year with proper marketing."

Bingaman's legislation would use money already available in the Department of Commerce. It would require no additional appropriations. "The investment," Bingaman said, " will be minimal, and the benefits to the Indian people considerable."

The grants would fund trade missions, promotional programs, surveys, and other market developing activities. Entities eligible for grants would include Indian tribes, tribal organizations and enterprises, craft guilds, marketing cooperatives, and individual Indian-owned businesses.

The Senator noted in particular a ready market for Indian arts and crafts in West Germany, with which the U.S. now has a large trade deficit. He successfully argued that heightened trade in Indian arts and crafts with that country would help reduce that deficit.

"Although Indian exports would not be extremely significant in reducing our imbalance with West Germany," Bingaman said, "this nation must export and open up markets in foreign countries wherever we can if we are to remain competitive."

Sapulpa and Kellyville Set Candidate Forum

The Sapulpa Indian Community along with Kellyville will be hosting a Creek District Tribal Campaign Rally.

The Principal Chief and candidates for that office will be allowed a ten or twelve minute speech.

The Second Chief and candidates for that office will be allowed approximately eight minutes.

The National Council representatives for the Creek District and candidates will be allowed approximately six minutes. If there are over four candidates they will be allotted four to five minutes. If there are less than three candidates they will be allotted approximately twelve minutes.

The rally is designed to be ran in an orderly manner with a moderator, time keeper, parliamentarian, recording clerk and sgt. at arms. They will also have present a voters registration clerk for those wishing to register.

After each speech is given, they will have a question and answer session. Each question will be allotted one minute with the response being one minute and a half.

John Fixico stated that this time is set up to hear all sides and to "bury the hatchet, come with a clean heart and open mind."

At 5:00 p.m there will be a food sale, the price not quoted, but assured it will be affordable, the menu is cornbread and beans with other Indian foods. This is to defray the cost and expenses.

The starting time will be 7:30 p.m. at the Creek County Fairgrounds, 5 miles west of Sapulpa Highway 66, October 13th 1987.

All representatives are cordially invited and will be recognized. Also all tribes as well as non-Indians are openly invited. City and County officials will be present.

Chairman Fixico stated that anyone wishing to correspond with Sapulpa, they should write to this address; Sapulpa Indian Community, P.O. Box 1957, Sapulpa, Okla, 74067

Miss Oklahoma USA Pageant-

Entries are being accepted for the Miss Oklahoma USA Pageant, the official preliminary to the Miss Universe Pageant. This year's pageant will be held at the OKC Civic Center Music Hall in November. Girls between the ages of 17-25 are eligible to enter. For more information write: Miss Oklahoma USA, P.O. Box 54462, Oklahoma City, OK 73118.

Donnie McNac

McNac Receives Degree Applied Science OST

Donnie McNac, son of Emma Jacobs of Henryetta and Pete McNac of Roosevelt, Utah, graduated with an Associate Degree in Applied Science, August 28 at OST, Okmulgee. Donnie graduated from the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Dept. He spent nine and ahalf years in the US Army beginning at Ft. Sill, OK and was then stationed at Barbers Point, Hawaii. He spent his last three years at Ft. Campbell, KY. Donnie was a CH-47 helicopter mechanic and flight engineer. He now serves in the Oklahoma National Guard. He is a member of the Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church and chairman of the Yardeka Indian Community. He is attending OST this fall semester and will be in electronics technology class. Donnie resides in Okemah with his wife, Louise Roberts McNac, two children Kimberly and Kevin McNac.

PFC Daniel Wind

Daniel Wind III Completes Marine Corps Training

Marine, PFC Daniel Dean Wind III has completed recruit training at Marine Corps recruit depot in San Diego, California.

Wind and his wife, Stephanie are residents of Okmulgee. During the second week training cycle, Wind was taught the basics of battlefield survival. He was introduced to the typical daily routine that he will experience during his enlistment and studied the personal and professional standards traditionally exhibited by marines.

Wind participated in an active physical conditioning program and gained proficiency in a variety of military skills, including first aide, rifle marksmanship, and close order drill. Teamwork and self discipline were emphasized throughout the training cycle.

Morning Star Ministry Visits Navajo Nation

For the past four years Morning Star has made an annual trip to the Navajo Nation in New Mexico and Arizona. Unlike times past when we visited some isolated parts of the Navajo Reservation (places that you would think could only be accessable by helicopter to get in and out of) this time we concentrated our efforts in the Window Rock area.

The purpose of our trips is to share the Gospel in teaching and music and to fellowship with the Navajo people.

This year we held a five day Teaching Seminar at the Window Rock Civic Center with guest speakers, Rev. Adrian Jacobs from the Six Nation Reserve in Ontario Canada and Rev. George Huey from the Kasatchewan Ontario area.

Many of our Christian brothers and sisters from the Shiprock, Farmington and Albuquerque as well as the Window Rock area came to be with us in services. In one service a young man, the grandson of Rev. Mary Fish gave his testimony of being delivered from drugs. It is wonderful to see God working in people as He had in John's life.

On our last evening in the area we held a Gospel singing in which Gospel groups across the Navajo Nation were invited to participate. We had a wonderful time worshipping with the Cleveland Brothers, Larry Emerson & Skyward, Felix Valdez, the Holcomb Assembly of God Choir, Hidden Manna, the Sounds of Living Water from Pueblo, Co. and Rev. Mary and Sister Lisa Fish from Pawhuska, Ok.

This year's mission had a two fold purpose. Not only were we able to share in the work of the Lord, but we were able to utilize our Drug, Alcohol and Inhalant Awareness Program staff and information. We were made welcome by Tribal officials who made provisions for our stay during the week at the Navajo Nation Inn. The Drug, Alcohol and Inhalant Program staff were invited to make presentations during the 'Navajo Nation Youth Week'. Mary Ross-Tyon, Jack Sunagoowie and Negiel Bigpond each gave presentations during the week. Over 1,000 students took advantage of the opportunity to gain information on various topics such as substance abuse, higher education and careers. This shows that all tribes can work together for the betterment of our Indian people. When you really care it doesh't matter if you are Creek, Navajo, Euchee, Cherokee or whatever, you'll work with those who have the same desire.

The warm and friendly hospitality we receive from those in Navajo Nation continues to draw us back every year as a Ministry Group. Our special thanks goes the Navajo Nation as a whole and to Irvin Toddy, Director of Youth Development; Mary Chris Martin, Coordinator; Andy Elk Shoulder, Alcohol Program Director, and Stanley Melford, Staff Assistant, for their assistance and making our stay in Window Rock a memorable one.

BE SURE AND VOTE!
Creek Tribal Election
October 24, 1987

CHALAKEE REUNION. . .

The descendants and friends of Mrs. Fannie (Berryhill) Chalakee and the late Rev. John Chalakee gathered together on September 6th at Springtown Methodist Church for the 2nd reunion.

Saturday night, starting the event was cooking (smoking) a hog for the dinner, which was prepared by Johnnie Greene and Daniel Chalakee.

Sunday morning, beginning the big day with church service at 11:00 a.m., the guest speaker was Steven Chalakee, grandson of the late Rev. John Chalakee. Steven is in the U.S. Navy stationed at Great Lakes, Illinois. He flew back home for the occasion. Rev. Newman Frank Jr., chairman of Springtown, is also a grandson of the deceased.

Before the noon meal, Fannie Olson (grand daughter) read a poem she wrote for the occasion. Mrs. Fannie Chalakee gave the invocation. After dinner, there were games for all ages; sack races, egg toss, volleyball (4 teams) and horse shoes. There were prizes for the youngest, oldest and one that come the farthest to the reunion.

Those present for the day were: Nora Nelson, Broken Arrow; Mae Mitchell, Muskogee; Richard and Ruth Crowley, Tulsa; Lucille Miller, Johnny Lee Kelly, Coweta; Jerry Deere, Tulsa; Pete Buffalohead, Lawrence, Ks; Howard and Kathryn Jones, Tulsa; Robert Green, Tulsa; Paulima Deere, Oklahoma City; Fannie Chalakee, Coweta; Martha and Johns Reece, Moscow, Ks; Gregory and Sally Reece and children Kasie, Trasie, Wehnoka & Isaac from Moscow, Ks; Joel and Saundra Reece and son Micah, Haven, Ks; Phillip and Merri Reece with children, Zachary and Abbi Gail, Hugoton, Ks; Fannie and Craig Olsen and children, Luke and Monica, Buhler, Ks; Howard Reece, Rolla, Ks; Louvina and Rev. Newman Frank and Shelly, Coweta; Newman Jr. and Florence Frank and Jeffry, Glenpool; Jo Ellen Ballard and daughter Heathe, Glenpool; Doris and Junior McGeeley with children Timmy and Allisa, Coweta; Daniel and Shirley Chalakee and children Stewart, Michaell and Jason, Tulsa; and Steven, Great Lakes, ILL; Joanne Deere from Washington, D.C., children Lyle Deere, Muskogee, Lisa and Bonnie Deere and children Tenetke, Koza and Poskova, Oklahoma City; Nora Ellen Replogle, son Mickey with wife Tammy and Zachary Replogle, Broken Arrow; Johnnie Greene and grand-daughter Ashley Riley, Coweta; Terri Lou Bartels and son Adam, Coweta; Mike Bartels, Tulsa; Josephine Allen and children Carlene, Kendall, Stephanie and Christi Jo, Lawrence, Ks.

Those not able to attend were Johanna McGee and Melinda, Washington D.C. and Sherri Riley of Florida.

An all-night service had been planned and others came for this. Speakers for first part of the night were Katheryn Jones and Steven Chalakee and Rev. Peters, pastor of Broken Arrow United Methodist Church. Special songs were sung by Gregory Reece who is a grandson of the deceased.

Okmulgee Indian Ed Parent Committee Pow Wow A Success!

GLENDA SULLIVAN, A TEACHER AT WESTSIDE IN OKMULGEE, *is shown as she helps her students prepare for the Grand Entry. With her is eighth grade student Annette Powell, Preston. Glenda is the wife of Thomas Sullivan, Creek tribal member and CN Higher Ed employee.*

By Kathryn Bell

The First Annual Okmulgee Indian Pow-Wow was held at the Creek Nation Omniplex Grounds, Okmulgee, September 19. The Pow—Wow was sponsored by the Okmulgee Indian Education Parent Committee. The one-day event featured some of the best-known dancers and singers from across the state.

Chris Harjo, the son of Jim and Nettie Harjo, Okmulgee, was the Head Little Boy Dancer for the Pow-Wow. Harjo is a Sophomore at Okmulgee High School. Nettie Harjo served as the Chairman of the Pow-Wow Task Force which also included Linda Cusher as Secretary and Jackie Jackson as Treasurer. Other Task Force members include Pat Wilson, Glenda Sullivan, Glenda Washington and school staff.

LENDING HER SUPPORT TO THE POW-WOW ON BEHALF OF HER STUDENTS, *Pat Wilson, a teacher at Eastside in Okmulgee, is shown with some Indian students during the Grand Entry.*

The JOM-Title IV-A Parent Committee officers are; Linda Cusher-President, Fred Jones, Vice-President, Glenda Washington-Secretary/Treasurer. The staff of the JOM—Title IV includes; Lawanta Soap, Diane Jackson, Esther Gee, Glenda Sullivan, Pat Wilson, Dr. Hughes and Dr. Jones.

According to Glenda Sullivan, a teacher at Westside Elementary there is an enrollment of 450 Indian students representing 25 different tribes within the Okmulgee Public School system. Twenty to thirty of these students participated in the Pow-Wow. "This Pow-Wow benefit served as a cultural awareness activity as well as a learning experience for many of our students, because the Pow-Wow provides a means of cultural expression and ethnic identification for many Indian people in the US," said Mrs. Sullivan, who added there were contest dancing going on in Broken Arrow and Eufaula, but many had chosen to participate in the Okmulgee first Pow-Wow to show support for the Okmulgee students.

The proceeds, which were reported to be approximately one thousand dollars, to help sponsor cultural activities for Indian students throughout the year. Also, according to Mrs. Sullivan, the proceeds will benefit all public school students and the general public in that the cultural awareness programs that are presented by the Indian students will benefit the general student body and public.

"Special thanks to Principal Chief Cox for his generous support in the education of our Creek youth. He has always helped us in anything we asked for because he has a deep concern for the education and welfare of our Indian youth," said Mrs. Sullivan, who also thanked the following for their part in the success of the Pow-Wow; the Title IV-A/JOM staff, parents, parent committee, Creek Nation, Creek Nation elderly, Viet Nam Veterans, Okmulgee Indian Community, friends, relatives and guests, and the CN Communications Dept.

Teacher Pat Wilson, Choctaw, and wife of tribal member and CN employee Steve Wilson, felt the Pow-Wow should become an annual event, based on the success of this year's dance - "This is part of our Indian heritage and we definitely need things like this - when I see the excitement of my Indian students because of what's happening here tonight - it is worth all the hard work and effort put into it by the Parent Committee, parents and teachers." Mrs. Wilson praised the efforts of George Cosar, Creek, whom she termed was a "motivating force" for the planning of the Pow-Wow. "Our sincere appreciation does go to George who provided assistance and encouragement to our task force and our students," echoed Mrs. Sullivan.

Gourd Dancing started the day's activities at 2 p.m. Head singer was Wiley LittleCreek, Shawnee; Head Man Dancer, Robbie Anquoe, Kiowa-Sioux; Head Lady Dancer, Debbie Chanate, Kiowa-Cherokee; Head Little Girl Dancer. Shawna Tyndall. Creek-Omaha, NE Tia Plah Society, Gourd Clan Club.

After Gourd Dancing, supper was served at 5:30 with an exhibition Creek stomp dance held and then the Grand entry. Visiting Indian Clubs included those from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and Bacone College in Muskogee.

The Color Guard of the Muscogee Creek Vietnam Era Vets led the Grand Entry and posted the colors.

PRINCIPAL CHIEF COX PRESENTS A CHECK ON BEHALF OF CREEK NATION *in support of the Pow-Wow to Nettie Harjo, Creek, Okmulgee. She served as Chairman of the Pow-Wow Task Force and her son, Chris was the Head Little Boy Dancer for the event.*

THE REDLAND SINGERS WERE THE HOST DRUM *at the first Pow-Wow held in Okmulgee. Shown at the drum are George Cosar, Creek and graduate of Okmulgee High, and Tony Arkeketa, Ponca-Otoe, seated to his right. Arkeketa served as the MC for the Pow-Wow. Jackie Jackson, Creek and Treasuer of the Pow-Wow Task Force, served as arena director.*

MINUTES-JULY 25, QUARTERLY SESSION

INVOCATION: Helen Chupco
CALL TO ORDER: Carney Roberts, Speaker
ROLL CALL: A quorum was declared with twenty-four members being present, four members were absent. Chair advised that all business transacted during this session would be considered valid and entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws. Those absent were: Roy Bear, Larry Bible, Betty Foster and Harley Little.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes were mailed prior to the meeting. The Chair entertained a motion for approval of the minutes. A motion was made by Childers and seconded by Chupco to postpone the approval of the minutes for May 30, 1987 and June 27, 1987 Regular Scheduled Sessions. Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty three in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion Carried the approval of the minutes was postponed.
ORDERS OF BUSINESS:
I. OLD BUSINESS - NONE
II. NEW BUSINESS - New business was conducted as follows:
7C A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FROM TOBACCO REVENUE FOR PURCHASE AND DISTRIBUTION OF TOBACCO TAX STAMPS AND SUPPLIES. The Bill was read and considered as follows: ***Section 101 FINDINGS.*** Per Section 203 and Section 204 C & E of NCA 86-08 the Commissioner is authorized to issue tobacco revenue stamps. **Section 102** Funds shall be expended for the benefit of licensed tobacco outlets within the exterior boundaries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation. **Section 103** Funds are hereby authorized to be appropriated from #100-8234-0615 tobacco revenue account in the amount of $1,250.00 for the purpose of purchasing Tobacco Tax Stamps and Supplies. **Section 104** The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to approve expenditures for purchase and distribution of tobacco revenue tax stamps and stamp supplies. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Miller to approve Bill 7C as read. The Chair entertained discussion. Stacy Chairman of Business and Governmental Services explained that the committee recommended a "Do Pass". Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty-three in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion Carried BIll 7C was approved as read and shall be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.
7D A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF GAMING COMMISSIONER FOR THE 1988 FISCAL YEAR. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. FINDINGS The National Council finds that the Office of the Gaming Commission was establish by ordinance and has successfully fulfilled the regulatory functions of that office. Further, it is in the best interest of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to appropriate funds for the continued operation of the Office of the Gaming Commission. **Section 102** The National Council hereby appropriated Bingo Revenue for the operation of the Office of Gaming Commisison during the 1988 Fiscal Year.

Salaries	$142,586	
Commissioner		30,000
Deputy/Operations		24,088
Deputy/Audit		22,044
Deputy/Compliance		18,470
Administrative Secretary		17,929
Secretary		15,475
Secretary/Statistician		14,580
Fringe Benefits:	43,488	
Operating Expense	47,890	
Travel		18,000
Office Space		9,690
Equipment		2,750
Supplies		3,250
Telephone		7,600
Service & Repair		1,800
Publications & Periodicals		500
Seminars & Fees		1,800
Investigation & Auditing		2,500
TOTAL	233,964	

Section 103 The Gaming Commission may, with the approval of the Principal Chief, modify the budgeted amounts within the limits of the approved appropriations. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Chupco to approve the Bill 7D as read. The Chair entertained a discussion. Chairman of Business and Governmental Services, Stacy, informed the Council that the Bill was reviewed by their committee and their recommendation was "Do Pass". Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty Two in favor, one against and no abstentions: Voting no was: Dunn. Motion carried Bill 7D was approved as read.
7E A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING BINGO REVENUE FUNDS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND INITIATION OF THE "DRUG, ALCOHOL AND INHALANT AWARENESS PROGRAM" FOR THE MORNING STAR OUTREACH CENTER. The Bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101 FINDINGS The National Council finds that: A. This program focuses on the education of parents in prevention, intervention, and parent support groups dealing with adolescents and alcohol, drug and inhalant abuse. B. The problem of drug abuse effects all races and every level of society, and it is continually affecting our Traditional Indian people. C. By educating parents, tribal leaders, pastors and other concerned individuals, it will increase the awareness of the dangers and consequences of substance abuse. **Section 102** The National Council hereby appropriates $20,250 from Bingo Revenue Funds Account for the establishment and initiation of the Drug,Alcohol and Inhalant Awareness Program, sponsored by the Morning Star Outreach Center. **103** The budget for this appropriation and implementation of said program shall be as follows:

Professional Training	$1,500
Office Space	3,000
Communications	3,050
Literature	1,500
Travel	3,500
Equipment	1,500
Consultant	2,000
Visual Aid	2,000
Office Supplies	700
Computer	1,500
Total	$20,250

Section 104 The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to expend $20,250 from the Bingo Revenue Funds Account to implement the "Drug, Alcohol and Inhalant Awareness Program". **Section 105** Upon completion of the Quarter beginning August 1, through November 31, 1987, the Morning Star Outreach Center - Alcohol, Drug and Inhalant Program shall provide, to the National Council and the Principal Chief an itemized expenditure sheet attached with copies of receipts for the expenditure of the appropriated amount. **Section 106** The National Council and the Morning Star Outreach Center are in agreement that this shall be a one time appropriation. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Clark and seconded by Miller to approve Bill 7E as read. The Chair entertained a discussion. Discussion was held. Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Six in favor, sixteen against and one abstention. Voting Yes were: Johnson Buck, Robert Buck, Pat Clark, Tony Hale, Richard Larney and Barton Williams. Those voting no were: Dan Barnett, Delbert Dunn, Jonas Dunson, Sandy McIntosh, Kenneth Childers, Helen Chupco, Joe Fox, Robert Hardridge, Clyde Johnson, Frank Kamp, Dorothy Miller, Micky Primeaux, Leah Stacy, Alexander Thomas, Earl Wheeler and Jerry Wilson. Irene Cleghorn abstaining. Motion did not carry, Bill 7E was not approved and shall be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION
A motion was made by Stacy and seconded by McIntosh to add Bills 7F and 7G to the agenda for consideration. Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty three in favor, none against and no abstentions. Motion carried Bills 7F and 7G were added to the agenda for consideration.

7F A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY IN McINTOSH DISTRICT The Bill was read and considered as follows: **Section 101 FINDINGS** The National Council finds that: A. It is the goal of the tribal government to acquire facilities for the use of chartered communities and for economic development. B. Funds have been programmed in the FY 1987 Tribal Budget for "Capital Acquisition" from Docket 21/276 monies and funds are available from tribal budget/economic development. ***Section 102*** The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to negotiate and purchase the following properties and the facilities located thereon: "Lots 1 and 8, Block 6 less the West 20' thereof of Lakeland Surburban Addition of the City of Checotah, McIntosh County, Oklahoma and "A parcel of land situated in the SW/4 of the SE/4 of Section 5T11N-R17E of the I.B.M. in McIntosh County, Oklahoma better described as follows; Beginning 1903.85' west of the southeast corner of said Section 5; thence north 0 degrees 17'09" west 1188.43' to the true point of beginning; thence north 01 degrees 38'29" west 174.60'; thence north 78 degrees 13'.01" east 169.92; thence south 01 degrees 22'59" east 167.07; thence south 75 degrees 42'23" west 170.80' to the true point of beginning. Said parcel contains 0.67 acres more of less." **Section 103** The Principal Chief is authorized to administer and expend funds not to exceed $172,500 for the purchase of property and facilities from "Capital Acquistion" funds appropriated in the FY 1987 Tribal Budget from Docket 21/276. **Section 104** Further, the Principal Chief is authorized to administer and expend Tribal income designated in the FY 1987 Tribal Budget as Economic Development funds not to exceed $52,500 for economic development and community activities as requested by the Checotah Indian Community and approved by the Principal Chief. **Section 105** The Principal Chief is authorized to request, if needed, early buyouts of investments from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. **Section 106** The Muscogee (Creek) Nation requests that the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs accept the purchase of lands described in Section 102 under the following title: THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN TRUST FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OF INDIANS, AND hold said lands in trust under the appropriate federal statute. The Bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Larney and seconded by Buck to approve Bill 7F as read. The Chair entertained a discussion. McIntosh, Chairman of Tribal Affairs, informed the Council that the committee recommended a Do Pass. Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty three in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion carried Bill 7F was approved as read and shall be recorded as such in the Creek Nation of Laws.
7G A BILL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO RETAINAND COMPENSATE A LEGISLATIVE CLERK FOR THE NATIONAL COUNCIL. The bill was read and considered as follows: Section 101. FINDINGS: The National Council finds that: A. There is a need for a Legislative Clerk to be assigned and to serve in the Office of the National Council. B. It is the intent of this Ordinance to appropriate "Creek Nation Bingo Revenue Funds" to retain the position of Legislative Clerk and to continue the employment of the Legislative Clerk as employed under the same conditions and term of Executive Order 85-01 (A) **Section 102** The National Council hereby authorizes, programs and appropriates, from the Creek Nation Bingo Revenue Funds Account, $15,475 for salary and $4,766 for fringe benefits for the Legislative Clerk during the 1988 fiscal year. **Section 103** The Principal Chief is hereby authorized to program and expend "Creek Nation Bingo Revenue Funds" to retain the position of Legislative Clerk and employee now serving in that position, effective October 1, 1987. The bill having been read, the Chair entertained a motion. A motion was made by Buck and seconded by Johnson to approve Bill 7G as read. The Chair entertained a discussion. A motion was made by Kamp and seconded by Cleghorn to hold the discussion in executive session. Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Sixteen in Favor, seven against and no abstentions. Voting yes were: Barnett, Buck, Buck, Cleghorn, Chupco, Childers, Kamp, Fox, Dunson, Dunn, McIntosh, Wilson, Wheeler, Stacy, Thomas, and Primeaux. Voting no were: Clark, Larney, Hale, Hardridge, Miller and Williams. Motion Carried, Bill 7G was to be discussed in executive session. The representatives moved to the Council Chambers to hold an executive session. Executive session was held. For the record, a motion was made by Wilson and seconded by Larney to amend Bill 7G by adding $1,000 to the salary. Upon a motion duly made and seconded a roll call vote was taken with the results being: Twenty three in favor, none against no abstentions. Motion Carried. Bill 7G was amended and approved. Twenty three in favor, none against, no abstentions. Motion Carried, Bill 7G was approved as amended and shall be entered into the Creek Nation Code of Laws as such.
OTHER BUSINESS: NONE
ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, ETC. Quarterly reports were postponed until a later time. Planning Session, Thursday, August 20, 1987 6:00 p.m. Business and Governmental Services Committee meeting, Thursday, August 6, 1987.
ADJOURNMENT

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services Survey

Dear Community Member:

The Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) Board of Directors decides which type of Indian law issues will be handled by OILS each year. The Board of Directors will make a decision in January, and is interested in hearing the ideas of the Indian community before designating its case priorities for 1988. We need your help to better serve you, the Indian community members.

All Indian clients, potential clients, and members of the Indian community are invited to complete the following survey, clip it out, and sent it to the address below. Please note that OILS handles Indian status related cases, and that Legal Aid of Western Oklahoma and Legal Services of Eastern Oklahoma handle other types of cases for low income Indians.

Your Tribe: ________________ Your County of Residence: ________________

ISSUES	IMPORTANCE AND NEED		
	High	Medium	Low
Land Problems			
-- Restricted and Trust Land Problems			
-- Mineral Rights			
-- Settling the estate after someone dies, where Indian lands, mineral rights or IIM accounts are involved			
Indian Child Custody Problems - General			
-- Where State Removes or Seeks Removal of Children from Families			
-- Where Third Party Seeks Custody of Child in Divorce Action			
-- Adoptions			
-- Grandparent Visitation			
-- Where Family Allows Third Party to Care for Child and They Refuse to Return Child			
-- Other ______________________________			
Natural Resource Problem			
-- Hunting rights			
-- Fishing rights			
-- Water rights			
-- Other ______________________________			
INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS			
-- Tribal Enrollment Problems			
-- Indian Religion Issues			
-- Federal Entitlements (social security, public assistance, etc.)			
TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY AND JURISDICTIONAL ISSUES			
INDIAN HOUSING PROBLEMS			
Education			
Employment Discrimination			
Health Problems			
Voting Rights			
Other			

RETURN DEADLINE: December 1, 1987

Cut out and send to:

Cynthia Hancock
Oklahoma Indian Legal Services
3033 N. Walnut, Suite 103W
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

OILS Sponsors Contest for Official Logo

Oklahoma Indian Legal Services (OILS) is sponsoring a logo contest for Indian artists in the hope that its board of directors may select a new official logo. OILS is a nonprofit corporation funded by the federal Legal Services Corporation and the Oklahoma Bar Foundation. OILS was created in 1982, and has been using a standard legal services logo on its stationary since that time.

OILS is seeking a new logo which will reflect its provision of legal services to Indians of all tribes in Oklahoma in some manner. The logo should be a simple black and white design suitable for placement on stationary and possible placement on business cards and posters.

The designs of the three finalists will be submitted to the OILS board of directors for selection of the official logo, and the names of the three finalists will be included in a press release submitted to tribal newspapers. The winning contestant will receive payment of $100.

Persons interested in the contest may contact Norman Johnson at Oklahoma Indian Legal Services, 3033 N. Walnut, Suite 103 W, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105, (405) 528-5500, for further information. Entries may be submitted at any time, but no later than November 15, 1987. Entries will be returned only if the artist includes a note requesting return of the design with a suitable mailing envelope or tube, or if the artist personally picks the design up at the Oklahoma City office

Moore Among Authors of French Publication

The chairman of the University of Oklahoma department of anthropology is one of nine American authors chosen to write an article for the new French edition of the Encyclopedia of Ethnology and Anthropology.

John H. Moore, associate professor of anthropology at OU, will contribute a 4,000-word article on Plains Indians for the publication, which is the standard French reference used in public schools and universities. The publication, Dicitionnaire de L' Ethnologie et de L 'Anthropologie, is published by the Presses Universities de France and edited by Pierre Bonte and Michel Izard.

Moore, who began working with Plains Indians---especially those in Oklahoma--17 years ago, also is the author of a new book, "The Cheyenne Indians; A Social and Demographic History," published by the University of Nebraska Press. He has written articles on Plains Indians in Science, American Ethnologist, Plains Anthropologist and other journals.

He currently is beginning research on diabetes, demography and ethnohistory with the Creek Indians of eastern Oklahoma. He received grants in 1981-82 from the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health to pursue his research on Cheyennes.

The new encyclopedia, which will be available in the French language only, will be published in March 1988.

"Continuing Progress For The Muscogee People"

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MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 10 November 1987 Issue 16 Pages

Chief Cox Elected to Serve 5th Term

By Helen Chalakee

In an election that "turned out about like I expected", Principal Chief Claude Cox told his administrative staff the following Monday after the October 24 tribal election that "business was going on as usual, so get after it."

The newly re-elected Chief was busy making arrangements for his involvement with the Oklahoma Trade Mission to Japan.

Chief Cox and various state officials and business men, along with the Governor, left November 3 to meet with Japanese officials and to tour several industrial plants.

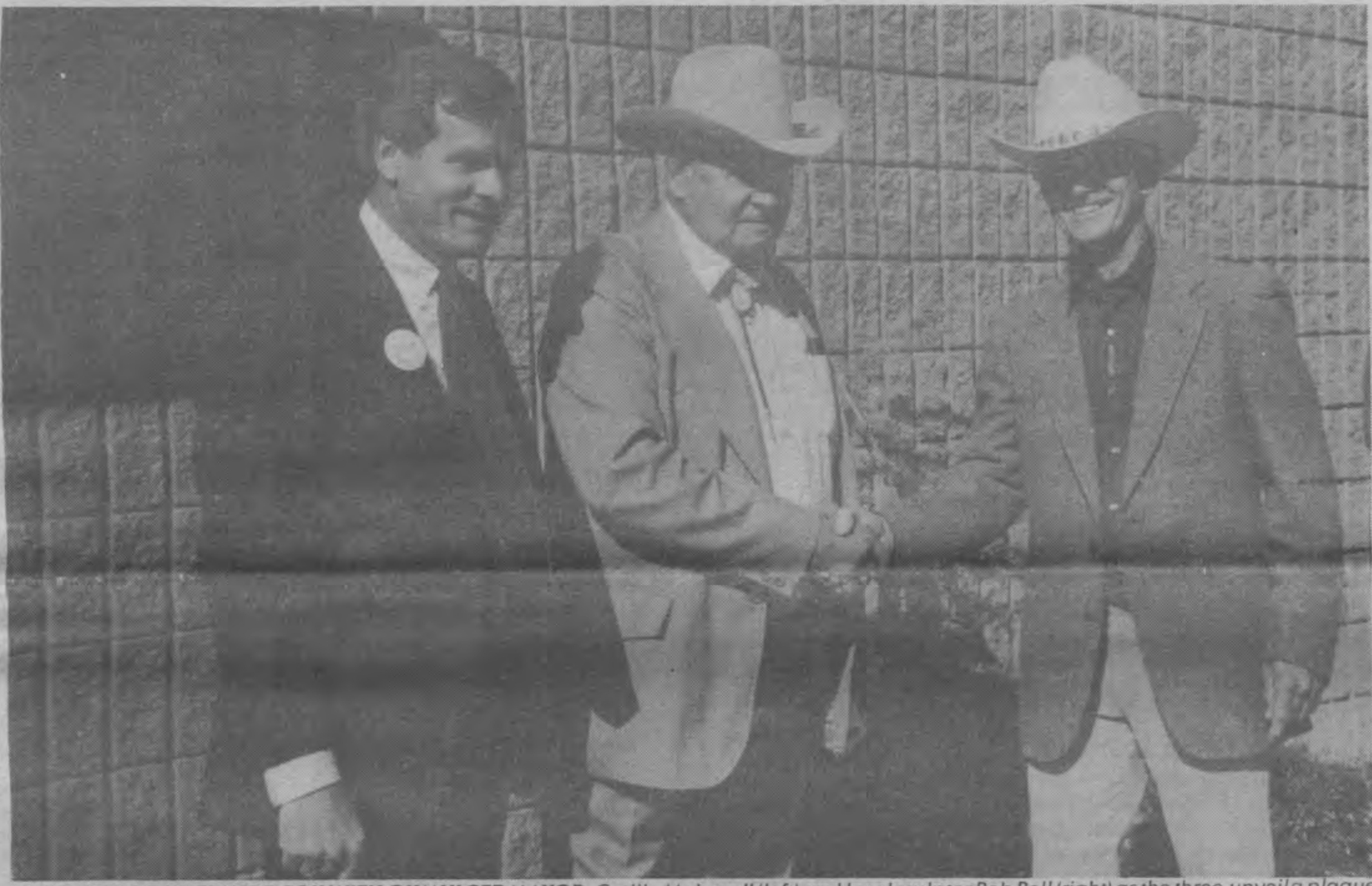
Chief Cox said he is always looking for economic ventures for the tribe, but this is the most unusual way that has come along, so far.

The October 24 Creek election revealed the confidence the Creek people have once again put in his capable leadership. Cox won the election with a vote of 2,413 over his opponent, Billy S. Fife, who received 2,112 votes.

A third candidate running for the office of Principal Chief, Patrick Bevenue, received 150 votes.

A run-off election is scheduled for December 5 to determine who will be Second Chief. Incumbent Perry Beaver received 2,160 votes. Earl W. Wheeler, a National Council Repre-

(See ELECTION RESULTS continued page 3)



PRINCIPAL CHIEF CLAUDE COX WITH OKMULGEE MAYOR, *Carlile Mabrey II (left) and local sculptor Bob Bell (right) as the three unveil a plaque commemorating a statue created by Bell which is placed in front of the Okmulgee City Hall. The statue depicts an Indian lifting his hands in prayer and is named "Okmulgee" from which the city of Okmulgee received its name from the Muskogean language.* ***(See "Okmulgee" page 3)***

Congressional Hearing Held Based on Newspaper Series Of "Fraud in Indian Country- A Billion-dollar Betrayal"

Rep. Sidney Yates III, D-III., at a hearing before the House Appropriations Interior subcommittee of which he is chairman, questioned whether the Bureau of Indian Affairs has adequately represented the interests of Indians. He suggested there might be need for a new department of Indian Affairs.

Yates cited allegations at the October 27 hearing, detailed in a series of articles in the Arizona Republic, published as an eight-day investigative series starting October 4.

The 30-story package detailed fraud and waste in federal Indian programs and charged that tax dollars have been wasted by poorly managed bureaucracy.

In one case, according to the Republic, an oil company pumped more than $1 million worth of oil and gas from land owned by a man named Austin Walker and opposed him in court- with the aid of government attorneys- when he sought payment.

The oil company, Bristow Resources Inc., had found a second man with the same name, after BIA officials said they could not find the real Austin Walker, a Creek-Cherokee in Tulsa. The other Walker was a black man from Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

"I don't know whether we can continue to have confidence in the BIA in view of these cases," Yates said at one point.

Yates told Interior Secretary Donald Hodel and Assistant Secretary Ross Swimmer, that recent allegations of fraud and mismanagement on Indian reservations are cause for great concern.

Hodel told Congress that Indian country had been in "total disarray" but that tribal and congressional resistance to change has impeded administration efforts to correct problems.

Yates criticized Hodel's opening statement and said he was "shocked" that Hodel did not express outrage at the allegations made in the articles.

Hodel told Yates that the news reports demonstrate efforts to correct problems have fallen short.

In Hodel's prepared statement, he said that the administraiton has "proposed some of the most exciting and promising initiatives on Indian affairs in years."

Among the proposed changes are the transfer of operations of remaining federal Indian schools to tribal or public school control, and a "self-assistance" work training program for welfare recipients.

"But we have not been able to generate broad-based support for these initiatives," Hodel said.

Because of the number and diversity of tribes, proposals to change the "status quo. . . (have) met with fear and resistance" and obtaining congressional "concurrance in major changes has been extraordinarily difficult," Hodel said in his statement.

But leaders of Indian tribes, in testimony, repeated longstanding complaints that the BIA is to blame for many of the problems.

Reprints of sections of the Arizona Republic's "Fraud in Indian Country" series dealing specifically with Indian oil and gas abuse, mismanagement and in some instances actual theft can be read on pages 12 through 16 of this issue of the Muscogee Nation News. The complete series can be ordered from the Arizona Republic, P.O. Box 1950, Phoenix, AZ 85001. Include check or money order for $2.50 made payable to Arizona Republic.

CHR'S Win Talent Contest

The Creek Nation CHR'S attended a State CHR'S Conference, September 15-18 at the Arrowhead Lodge in Canadian Oklahoma at which they won first place in the talent contest for, "The Raisin Dance," headed by Joe McIntosh.

Those participating were, Bunny Hill, Judy Riley, Christine Burgess, Jane Cantero, Lona Scott, Ethel Wyatt, Mary Hobia, Richard Posey, Evelyn Parker and Joanna Thomas.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $12.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements.Address P.O Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447.

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Dear Chief Cox:

Thank you and the Creek Nation for your assistance in getting the Law Enforcement Computer System, which will serve both the Okmulgee County Law Enforcement Agencies and the Creek Nation Light Horsemen.

Your genuine concern for the citizens of Okmulgee County is evident by your efforts to secure and willingness to share this system. Access to remote on line information will allow faster identification of known criminals, stolen property, profiling drug dealers, etc.

We look forward to implementing the computer system and working with you.

Sincerely, Bill Weaver
Okmulgee Country Sheriff

CN Election Board
NOTICE

A run-of election is scheduled for December 5 by the Creek Nation Election Board. Registration for precinct voting will close November 24. Absentee registration closed November 10.

FRAUD

According to Article XII, section 1205. Bribes to Influence Votes. Any person who offers, solicits or accepts something of value intended directly or indirectly to influence the vote of the person soliciting or accepting same shall be deemed quilty of a felony.

If anyone knows of such an act occuring in the past election, please contact the CN Election Board, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee OK 74447.

PRECINCT LOCATIONS

-TULSA DISTRICT-

Tulsa- Indian Health Care Resource Center, 915 South Cincinnati.
Glenpool- Glenpool Community Center (North Side), 94 W. 145th St.

-WAGONER-

Coweta- Golden Agers Center, S.
Coweta- Golden Agers Center, South Broadway.

-MUSKOGEE-

Muskogee- Muscogee Indian Community Center, 111 South Virginia.

-McINTOSH-

Eufaula- Old Indian Clinic, 7024 Forrest.
Checotah-Creek Nation Day Care, 800 S.E. 6th.
Ryal- Old Ryal School.
Hanna- Hanna School

-HUGHES-

Holdenville- Community Action Center, 416 E. Poplar.
Wetumka- Indian Community Center.
Dustin- Senior Citizens Center.

-OKFUSKEE-

Okemah- Creek Nation Day Care, 412 W. Broadway.
Weleetka- Indian Community Center, 620 South Chickasaw.

-CREEK-

Bristow- Indian Community Center, 121 West Lincoln.
Sapulpa- Sapulpa Head Start (old clinic) 520 South Adams.

-OKMULGEE-

Okmulgee- Creek Nation Tribal Complex, Hwy. 75 & Loop 56.
Dewar- Indian Community Center.

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Job Title
Director, Division of Human Development
Salary Range
Negotiable
Location
Creek Nation Tribal Complex
Okmulgee, Oklahoma
Job Duties

Under the supervision of the Executive Director, the incumbent provides direct planning, development, and operational management for a wide range of education, training and employment programs. Job duties include both fiscal and program management. The incumbent supervises program managers in the achievement of specific goals and objectives and evaluates accomplishments within the division. Area of responsibility include, but are not limited to, pre-school education, home-living services, vocational training, employment and training services, and other duties as assigned by the Executive Director.

Job Qualifications

Education: Graduation from a four-year institution with a bachelor's degree in education, management or related field. Graduate work or advanced work preferred. Experience: Demonstrated management experience in education or related field. Must have extensive experience and knowledge in program development and fiscal management.

Indian Preference

Closing Date: November 30, 1987

Send application to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Personnel Services, P.O. Box 580. Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447. Telephone: 918/756-8700 extension 389-390.

Absentee Voter Concerned

Dear MNN Editor:

We are hearing that some of our council persons are again saying they want to do away with the absentee ballots.

As members of the Creek tribe even though we live outside of the boundaries of the Creek Nation we have as much right to say who will be the elected officals of our tribe.

The state of Oklahoma and the United States allow people to vote absentee why should the Creek tribe be any different.

We are Creek members so we should have a say so in who runs our tribe.

If our Council persons don't want us to be able to vote absentee let them beware at the next election for they are dispensable.

Please remember that all Creeks are entitled to the say so of who runs our Tribal government.

Just because a person loses his election bid he should not be a sore loser.

Let the Creeks say who will run their government. We should all have a right to vote and vote for the people most qualified.

Lets all work together as a tribe. That is the thing that has always done away with the Indian tribes. They fight among themselves then everyone else comes in and takes away our things.

Please do not do away with the absentee ballots. We all need our right to vote.

Listen to the people. Thank you.

Sincerely, Irena Wood/ Deidre Wood
Oklahoma City

Christine Henneha Explains Nuyaka Election Procedure

On October 24, the Creek Indian election was held. We had 251 Indian voters come out and vote here in Okfuskee County, Okemah area. Even though the weather was raining and cold. Questions were asked about the yellow new voter ID cards. I took their names and turned it into the Election Board, where they should have it by next voting time. I've explained to some of the Indian voters who don't have these pink cards (enrollment cards) that they need their birth certificates to complete their enrollment to get the pink card.

Some questions asked me, were 'How come so many cards?" I explained the white card (CDIB) shows how much Indian you are, the degree. The pink enrollment card shows you have a roll number of your own and don't have to use your grandparent's roll numbers. The yellow card is the new voter's ID card. Some still have the old white Voter's ID card. I told them to keep it, and it will help them in getting information on you if you have no other ID. I also mentioned if you have moved or changed your address or if you are a female and have married and changed your name, please notify the Election Board at the Okmulgee Complex.

I have several elderly, 60 years or older, who have to be helped or who can't drive for themselves, and also handicapped, who want to vote. I told them they were eligible to ask the election board for an absentee ballot. I told them the ballot is sent to your home; you will vote and sign it, and return it through the mail. Corrections need to be on the names for the Indian voters. Some people went to Christine Burgess, a CHR for the clinic, and some went to Ernestine Henneha, who works for the clinic too. Some Indians wonder and question why I have worked so long at the voting place. I would like to let you know I always get one or two new persons and keep one that's already to help work at the precinct and that way it lets the untrained one learn what goes on in the voting area. I've worked with good Indian persons who were willing to learn. It's really a job where you have to concentrate to do it well.

I would like to let you, as the Creek Indian voters, know how I started working the precinct. Back in 1973, when Chief Cox first got into office, Chief asked the council members to pick some one to work on the voting precinct. Johnson J. Harjo, then a council member and member of the Nuyaka tribal town, called a meeting of his town members. They nominated me, plus other persons, but they voted me in to represent Nuyaka, which was OK by the council members. So since then the Chief said I could work the precinct, until other wise, a person replaced me, so through Chief and the council members say so. I've enjoyed the work and try my best to get the Indians to vote and they depend on me to help them in getting their voting card. My second reason I was picked was because I speak both languages, Creek and English, which the voters asked for. So, I get a worker that speaks or understands the Creek and English language. I feel I have no enemy if I do, I don't know it. I'm sorry for anyone who is. I do hope this explains and answers some questions. I will be looking for you to come and vote. Thanks for trusting me.

As always, Your precinct worker,
Christine Henneha

Dear Editor:

I had no opponent during the October Tribal Election and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Tulsa District Creek people. I truly appreciate your confidence, trust and support.

Respectfully, Kenneth L. Childers
Tulsa District Representative

Second Chief Run-off Election Scheduled December 5. . .

R. Perry Beaver

Dear Tribal Members:

As a result of the October 24 tribal election, I am in a run-off December 5 for Creek Second Chief. I was the high vote getter with 2,160 votes- leading my run-off opponent two to one. But, due to four candidates running for the Second Chief position, a run-off election is necessary to determine the 50 percent, plus one majority vote.

I want to thank each of you for voting for me and I urge you to return to the polls on December 5 and cast your ballot for me again. Those of you who voted absentee, I extend a "special thank you" for the effort you have put forth in participating in tribal affairs.

I am a strong advocate for absentee voting because I believe every Creek should have the right to elect tribal officials of their choice, regardless of if they live within the Creek Nation boundaries or in other areas. I also believe that the tribal government has the responsibility of making voting as easy as possible for tribal members.

Having served two years on the National Council and the past two years as your Second Chief, I am well aware of the day-to-day issues that affect the welfare and future of Creek tribal members. As a teacher and coach for the past 22 years, I know the importance of a good educational program for our tribe. Without a doubt, education is the "key to success" for our youth. The Creek Nation must regard educational and job training services as a high priority.

While serving as your Second Chief, I have commited myself to trying to work with everyone because I realize the only way we can continue to make accomplishments is through a united spirit of cooperation.

Eventhough economic conditions have been severe across the Country for the past few years, Creek Nation tribal government has continued to provide quality health care, educational services, burial assistance, jobs and housing for tribal members. This has been accomplished through dedicated leadership and unified teamwork.

With my experience and knowledge of tribal government, I can continue to work for the betterment of our great Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

VOTE FOR PERRY BEAVER, DECEMBER 5, FOR CREEK SECOND CHIEF.

Thank you,
Perry Beaver

Earl W. Wheeler

Dear Creek-Euchee Citizens:

During the last few months I have traveled throughout the Creek Nation presenting my views and gathering input from you, the Creek-Euchee people. I have addressed many of the issues and challenges that are facing the Creek-Euchee people now and in the coming years. I believe that the future of Creek tribal government rests upon the foundation of unity, development and education laid in the next four years.

As Second Chief, I will personally work to see that the government is responsive to the needs of all Creek-Euchee people. Creek-Euchee people must have continued control of the government through committed and aggressive, elected leadership. I am prepared to devote the necessary amount of time and personal attention to the performance of the Office of Second Chief.

Information is vital to keeping the Creek-Euchee citizens informed. One of the major problems in Indian country is keeping up with current development, federal administrative rulings and newly enacted laws should be communicated so Creek-Euchee people may have an input and become more informed on important issues.

The Second Chief's position requires a person with administrative ability and a thorough understanding of tribal government, program management and public relations. I would be able to work directly with the communities to develop ideas, programs and service. I believe my record in community development and as Creek District Representative justifies my personal confidence that I can serve well as Second Chief.

This quote taken from Winston Spencer Churchill, I feel, applies to our nation today: "Do not let us speak of darker days; let us speak rather of sterner days. These are not dark days; these are great days- the greatest days our country has ever lived; and we must all thank God that we have been allowed, each of us according to our stations, to play a part in making these days memorable in the history of our race.

Your vote for Earl W. Wheeler would be a vote for aggressive and committed leadership.

Thank you,
Earl W. Wheeler

Election Results

Continued from page 1. . .

sentative for Creek District who ran for the Second Chief office received 1,071 votes. Beaver and Wheeler will face each other in the run-off. Other candidates for Second Chief were: Robert Hardridge with 557 votes and Floyd Jones, the Redstick Political Party's choice, who received 826 votes.

A run-off will also be necessary for McIntosh District Representatives between Sandy McIntosh and Daniel Barnett. McIntosh received 390 votes, Barnett 239 and Jon Tiger trailed with 235.

McIntosh District Representatives for Seat C, Sandy McIntosh and Daniel Barnett will face each other in a run-off. McIntosh received 390 votes to Barnett's 239 with Jon Tiger trailing with 235. Seat A found Tommie S. Newton with no opponent as well as Seat B for Frank Kamp.

In Okmulgee District, Seat A, Harvey Gilroy with 551 votes won over Paulette Rogers with 501. Seat B re-elected incumbent Leah Stacy- 574 to Lucille Factor-481. Seat C also re-elected Barton Williams-527 over Gary Hudgens-513. Seat D electd the former tribal attorney, George Almerigi-628 over Juanita Dunson-431. Seat E saw newcomer Thomas Berryhill win over incumbent Anthony Hale by a very narrow twelve vote margin. Berryhill-538, Hale-526.

Tulsa District, Seat A, elected Donna Rhoades-328 over William Dowdy-224. Seat B found two incumbents vying for the same position. Jerry Wilson won over Patricia Clark by a wide margin, 378-184. No opposition filed against incumbents for Seats C,D, and E. Larry Bible, Kenneth Childers and Irene Cleghorn will be reseated, respectively.

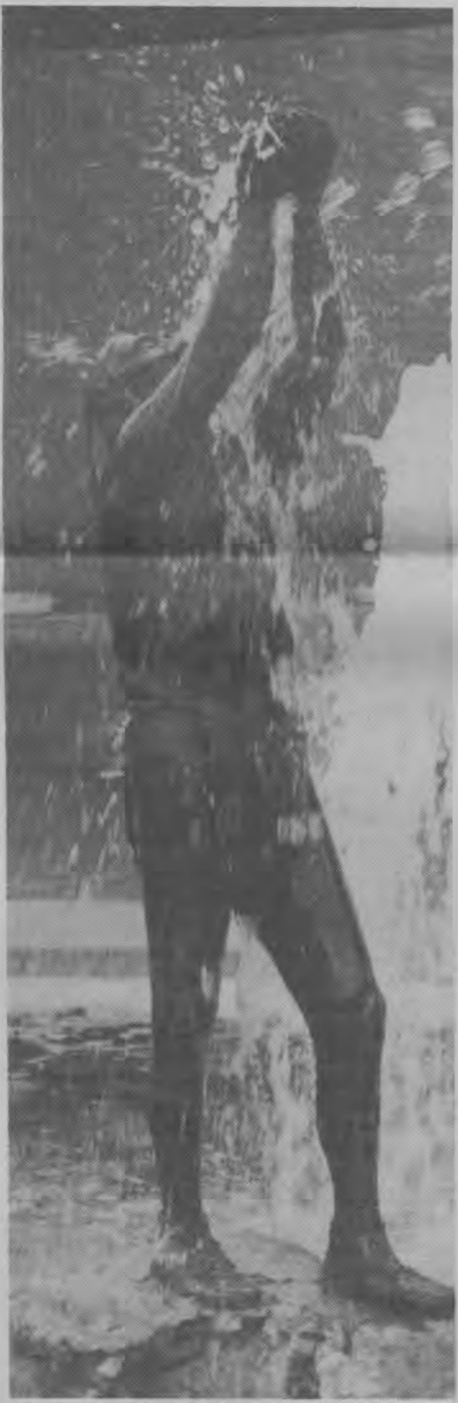
For Creek Distric, Seat A, Roy Bear won over Lee Roy Underwood, 312-188. Seat B, Ed Porter Frye won over Ann Rolland Holder, 295-207. Seat C elected Clarence Cloud over Michael Bigler, 342-166.

Muskogee District, Seat A, found longtime incumbent Helen Chpco with two challengers, Rosalie Tiger and Chester Fields. Chupco won by a wide margin with 175 votes to Tiger-48 and Fields-38.

Okfuskee District, Seats A and B, did not oppose incumbents Clyde (Press) Johnson and Carney Roberts who is currently serving as National Council Speaker. Redstick candidate, Billy J. Burden was elected by a narrow 18 votes over incumbent Dorothy Miller for Seat C. Burden received 266 votes, Miller 248. Two years ago Miller beat out Burden, who was an incumbent by a 118 vote spread. In that election Burden's wife ran for Seat C against Clyde Johnson and was beat by 144 votes.

No opposition was filed for Wagoner positions, Seat A and B. Mickey Primeaux and Alexander Thomas will be reseated.

Hughes District found the incumbent Buck brothers big winners. In Seat A, Robert Buck won over Billy Smith, 410-220. Seat B incumbent Jonas Dunson won over James Wesley 333-297 and Seat C re-elected Johnson Buck as a two-to-one favorite over Frances Long, 426-208.



"OKMULGEE" lifts his hands in prayer, *giving thanks to his new land. The city of Okmulgee received its name from the Muskogean language, "oki" (water) and "mulgis" (it is boiling) was derived from the Hitchita Indian words because of the townsite being near a warm spring. More likely, the word was a derivative of "omulgen," which means "for everybody." It would be spelled Ocmulgee until 1869 when a post office was established and the spelling changed to Okmulkee. The current spelling came about in the 1890's. Thirty "Okmulgee" miniatures were numbered and signed and given to the donors who contributed the necessary funds to cast the sculpture.*

Department of Health Human Services Issue New Indian Health Eligibility Rules

The Department of Health and Human Services has issued new rules governing eligibility for health services provided by the Indian Health Service.

The rules are intended to set limits on the eligible service population and enable the IHS to direct its services to those who qualify for IHS care. The rules also will enable the IHS to allocate resources among beneficiary groups based upon clearly defined local service populations. The more precise eligibility requirements, applicable to both direct and contract health services, are expected to enhance coordination of patient care in IHS and non-IHS facilities.

Under the final rules, an eligible person must be of Indian or Alaska Native descent and be a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe and reside within a designated health service delivery area. The tribal membership requirement would be waived for Indian children 18 years of age and younger who have at least one natural parent who is a member of a tribe and otherwise eligible for IHS services. A former resident of a designated health service delivery area who is otherwise eligible also may receive services from IHS and IHS—funded facilities in any health service delivery area but not from contract health care providers.

The rules provide a one-year transition period to enable persons eligible but not enrolled as tribal members to seek tribal membership.

Additional provisions are made for those under IHS care on the last day of the transition period of who have chronic degenerative conditions.

Deleted from the final rules are two provisions that appeared in a notice of proposed rulemaking published June 10, 1986: a requirement that eligible persons be of one-quarter or more American Indian or Alaska Native ancestry and a proposal to make non-tribal Indians eligible for services if they are of at least one-half Indian descent.

The new rules were prepared after a 150-day comment period during which IHS convened more than 120 public meetings around the country and received more than 11,000 comments.

Under prior rules published in 1956, health services were provided to persons of Indian descent who "belong to the Indian community served" by the local IHS health facility and program. No established degree of Indian ancestry (blood quantum) was required, and the term "Indian community" was not defined. To be eligible for contract health services (services purchased from non-IHS hospitals and providers) a person was required to be eligible for direct care from the IHS, reside within a designated contract health service delivery area and either be a member of the local tribe, or if not a member, reside on that tribe's reservation or have close social and economic ties with the tribe.

CN Hospital Provides Tips on Allergies-

Sniffling, swelling, sneezing, itching. . . almost everyone can relate to these discomforts. In fact, approximately 35 million people in the United States have encountered at least some of them at one time or another in their lifetime.

These reactions may indicate a common problem, allergies. According to physicians at Creek Nation Community Hospital, allergies are the result of the body's reaction to an offending chemical or material. When these chemicals or substances are swallowed, inhaled or touched- the body reacts. Thus the origin of allergies.

There are many different forms of allergies in existence ranging from asthma to hives to hay fever. The causes of these reactions can come about from creams, insect bites, pollen, food- almost anything. Because of the variety of causes, determining the cause of one particular reaction seems impossible. And the effects of such reactions vary in much the same manner.

Most allergic reactions are not harmful, yet some such cases, such as asthma, can be serious, even fatal. The physicians at Creek Nation Community Hospital believe that most life-threatening cases are reactions in the lungs, regardless of the cause. When the reaction occurs, the skin around the lips and fingernails become dusky and purplish. The victim may also complain about breathing difficulties.

Most cases, however, are not so serious. In many situations, medical relief can be given in order to control the reactions. No medication, internal or external, should be applied until the physician's diagnosis is complete. Improper care may only inflate a more serious condition.

No matter how annoying the condition, proper medical attention should be acquired. The Asthma and Allergy Foundation has issued warnings about several unproven techniques for allergy relief that promote the "quick-fix" idea. Experts in the field advise not supporting such efforts.

Although, some allergies may be outgrown, most are chronic. The best method for handling allergies are not that difficult. According to Creek Nation physicians, one should avoid contact with substances which will cause a reaction. If one does not know the cause of reactions, the victim can keep a journal of all substances, including food, with which the victim comes into contact.

One should also be aware of the precautions for serious cases. Knowing them could relieve unnecessary discomfort, and possibly save a life, maybe even your own.

People with questions regarding allergies and allergy relief may contact Creek Nation Community Hospital at 918/623-1424, for further information.

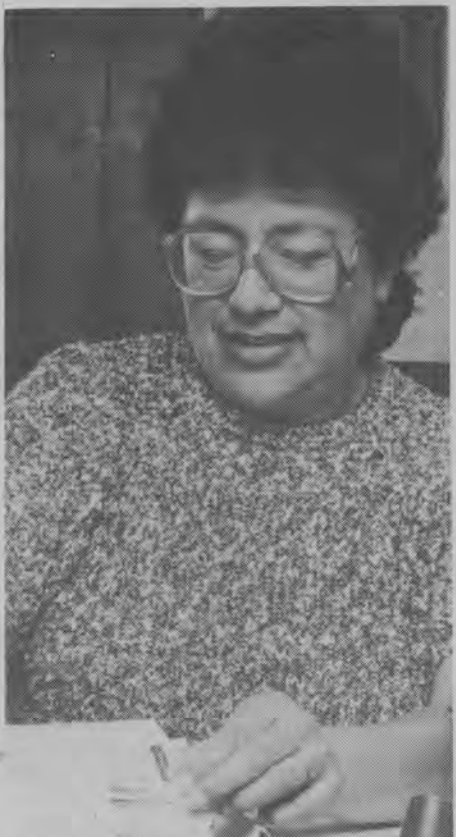
Letter from Creek candidate-

Creek Nation Citizens:

I should like to extend my thanks and appreciation to you who aided in my election to Creek District, Seat "B", of the National Council. I am especially gratefuly to those voters of the Creek District who made this possible. I am looking forward to serving your needs and those of the Creek Nation. Again

Thank You,
Ed Porter Frye

CN Hospital Records Department Focuses on Organization/Efficiency



Lerena Roberts, *Supervisor of Medical Records at Creek Nation Community Hospital, knows the importance of meticulous record keeping and organization, thus benefitting people should they ever be re-admitted to the hospital.*

OKEMAH--Tucked away in the basement at Creek Nation Community Hospital is a department called Medical Records. But don't let appearances fool you.

Medical Records is responsible for every patient's medical chart--from analyzing charts for completeness to seeking the appropriate reimbursement from insurance to filing medical charts for future use by the patient.

"Before insurance claims can be filed, the patient's medical chart has to be complete," explained Lorena Roberts, supervisor of medical records. "That means paying careful attention to the content of information in the record."

Medical records are vitally important, not only during the patient's hospitalization, but afterwards as well. Roberts presented a scenario in which a patient's illness was a puzzle to physicians until medical charts of family members previously hospitalized were reviewed, pointing to a similar problem. This process helped physicans with a diagnosis, and ultimately with the patient's successful treatment.

Just what information is included in a patients chart? Highly detailed care plans including the type of tests administered and what findings were made. Additionally, accurate, well organized medical records may one day be used in legal proceedings.

Sheer volume of patients and paperwork necessitates use of microfilming. Medical records prior to 1982 are on microfilm, and 1983's records are in the process of filming. Just to give a picture of the number of charts processed, 6,627 patient visits in one year to the emergency room (ER) utilized records.

"When a patient arrives, at the ER, it's important for the physician to have this previous medical records, and our goal is to have them to the physician within 10 minutes," Roberts said. Even when it's not an emergency, a former patient's requests for his medical records is acted upon promptly.

Confidentiality is of utmost importance in the medical records department. "People sometimes wonder why we ask them to sign releases, and the reason is of course for their protection," she explained.

Other staff members include Reba Thomas, medical records clerk/transcriptionist, and Anita Hicks, medical records clerk. Both have worked at the hospital since 1983. Roberts first organized the department in Feb. 1977, left in 1980 to obtain her bachelor of science degree from Tulsa University in Medical Records Administration, and returned to the hospital in 1982 upon graduation.

"Our staff works closely and in cooperation with the physicians and nurses at Creek Nation Community Hospital. After physicians examine patients they report the health status and other information to dictaphones, which are then transcribed in written form by the transcriptionist.

"So many changes have taken place in our system that it would be very easy to get bogged down in stacks of paper if we didn't keep up with the flow", Roberts pointed out. Even though the department is completely manual, she hopes to soon be on a data processing system, thus streamlining operations.

Involved in many areas of the hospital, medical records plays a role in utilization review. This studies each Medicare and Medicaid patient's admission by making certain the intensity of their illness meets the criterion established by the federal govenment. If the patient doesn't meet the criteria, the hospital helps link them to home health, nursing home care or other sources to meet their needs.

Roberts mentioned that the Medical Records Department meets the same sringent standards as other hospital departments in their procedures. The hospital is reviewed periodically by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, in which hospitals nationwide participate. Medical Records follows their guidelines and recommendations with up-to-date practices.

Quality Assurance is yet another area of involvement the department serves. They provide input to make sure action is taken to prevent negative trends in the hospital. In fact, the quality assurance committee implemented a red dot system last year enabling medical personnel to more easily identify patients whose conditions warrants more frequent checks.

"What makes our department work so well?" It's definitely the teamwork all the employees in the hospital work toward," she praised, "It's the cooperative spirit that helps us provide quality care for our patients."

—OBITUARIES—

WEBSTER CHALAKEE

Webster Chalakee, 73-year old resident of Okmulgee, died, Wednesday, October 14, in Tulsa.

Mr. Chalakee was born March 15, 1914 in Wagoner County. He had retired from Ball Brothers Corporation after 32 years of employment.

He is survived by his wife, Martha Chalakee of the home; three sons, William Chalakee and Tom Chalakee, both of Okmulgee, and Billy Chalakee of Albuquerque, N.M; seven daughters, Virginia Kolakowski, Marjorie Taylor, Sharon Tyndall, and Donna Chalakee, all of Okmulgee, Thelma Harjo and Barbara Davis, both of Arlington, Va., and Stella Harjo of Tulsa; one brother, Ruben Chalakee of Okmulgee; 22 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Wake services were held Thursday evening at Buchanan Memorial Chapel.

Funeral services were held 2 p.m., Friday, October 16, at Newtown Indian Methodist Church. Rev. Newman Frank, Sr., officiated. Interment followed in the Salt Creek Cemetery.

Pallbearers were; Dennis Juneau, Charlie LaSarge, Dennis Kolakowski, Billy Kolakowski, Kelly N. Harjo, Ryan B. Harjo, Harlan Jimmerson, Walter Jones, and Sam Brooks.

CELIA FREEMAN BERRYHILL

Mrs. Celia Freeman Berryhill, age 97, died October 22 at Doctors Hospital in Tulsa, Ok.

Mrs. Berryhill was born January 12, 1890 in Southwestern Indian Territory and had been an Okmulgee resident most of her life. She was a member of the New Town United Methodist Church. Her husband Rev. Harrison Berryhill, preceeded her in death in 1930. She was the daughter of John Freeman and Hattie Checote.

Survivors include two sons, Aaron and Benjamin Berryhill both of Okmulgee; four daughters, Elsie Douglas of Riviera, Az., Hepsey Berryhill of Shawnee Mission, Ks, Geri Berryhill and Martha Berryhill, both of Okmulgee; 24 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

A prayer service was held at the Cantrell Ivory Chapel on Friday, October 23 and funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. October 24 at New Town Methodist Church.

Officiating at the services were Rev. Jerry Baker, Rev. Thomas Long, Rev. Willie Gooden. Rev. Negiel Bigpond ministered in song.

Pallbearers were Mrs. Berryhill's grandsons, Bruce Berryhill, Lewis Zamora, Lee Freeman, Vernon Freeman, Randall Freeman and Max Freeman.

***CELIA BERRYHILL** is shown on her 87th birthday at a party given at her home by family and friends.*

NORMAN JOHNSON

Norman Johnson, age 61 of Henryetta, died Tuesday, October 20.

Mr. Johnson was born March 22, 1926 in Henryetta. He was a retired glassworker.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Johnson of the home; two sons, Joseph Johnson of Colorado Springs, Co.; three step sons, Gary Childers and Allen Childers, both of Oklahoma City, and Larry Childers of Checotah; and one daughter Marilyn Ray of Okmulgee.

Graveside services were held at 2 p.m. Friday, October 23 at the Johnson Family Cemetery in the Wilson Community. Rev. John Lowe officated the service.

PAULETTE McINTOSH LeCLAIR

Funeral services were held for Paulette McIntosh LeClair, age 21 on Thursday, October 15 at the Tulsa Indian Methodist Church.

Ms. LeClair was born August 1, 1966.

Officiating the service was Rev. Roy Bigpond. Casketbearers were: Jimmy Overturf, Jimmy McIntosh, Mark Noble, Bo Aquirre, Scott McLemore and Shaun James. Interment was in the Parkgrove Cemetary at Broken Arrow, OK.

Expression of Thanks

The family of Dave Bible wishes to thank everyone for their kindness during the loss of their loved one.

Expression of Thanks

The family of Webster Chalakee wants to thank those who were so kind and generous with food and prayers during the loss of their loved one.

Evangelist Ernest Best

"Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the LORD, and I will heal him. But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked."

Isaiah 53:19-21

We are living in a tremendously restless nation. There is continual activity. People are searching for fulfillment and meaning in life. We see it among our Indian brethren. Much is being done through self-help programs, education, and community action. These things are good, and should be done. The body must be fed and sheltered. The individual needs to be trained and educated. However, man is not just a two part being. After the bodily needs are met, the mind educated, and the materials needs provided, there is still a large void in every person's life. The spiritual needs of man must be met also. This can only be done through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I visited recently on a reservation in Nebraska and talked with a tribal leader. I was told that even though they teach their people not to be involved in alcohol, alcohol is still their greatest problem, and is demoralizing and killing them. There is no Bible preaching church on that reservation. Alcohol is only a symptom of the real problem. The problem is within the heart of man. Man's outward actions are like the debris that is cast upon the shore by the continually rolling tides of the ocean. It casts forth whatever is in it's depths. There is no peace! Peace can come only from God, through His Son. When one accepts Christ, His blood cleans away the debris from within and leaves peace in it's place. His Holy Spirit dwells within to give the strength needed to leave alcohol, drugs, or whatever has control of a person's life. Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

We were in northern Wisconsin during the month of September. I preached revivals in two Pottawatomi and one Chippewa church. We praise God, there were some saved and many came for prayer, added spiritual strength and rededication of their lives. There are not many Christians on these reservations and the pressure on the few Christians is tremendous. We praise God for those who are living for Him. We are thankful to see some young adult men and women coming to the Lord. This is not a very common thing.

The northern woods of Wisconsin are breathtaking at this time of year. We stand in awe of the blazing beauty of God's creation. We are thankful He allowed us to be here during this season.

Before this letter reaches you, I will have gone to a village in Canada, which has never had a church. Please pray for this village - Lac La Croix. I will be giving my testimony and preaching. There is a Chippewa man trying to start a work there. Pray that God will open their hearts to the Gospel and the Holy Spirit will use the messages I will leave with them.

Pray also for the reservation in Nebraska. There are actually two reservations, the Omaha and the Winnebago. God willing, we will be going there early next year for a meeting. Pray that God will open the door for a church to be started there.

We thank you for your prayers, your letters of encouragement, and your faithful financial support. We praise God for you, our colaborers and friends.

YOUR MISSIONARIES TO THE NORTH AMERICAN INDIANS,
BROTHER ERNEST, BENNIE AND JERRY BEST

EXPRESSION OF THANKS

The family of Celia Berryhill, wish to thank all those wonderful people who sent flowers, offered prayers and prepared meals during our time of grief. We special want to thank the Creek Nation Social Service Department for the financial help for burial expenses. We appreciate all the help received, God bless you all.
The Family of Celia Berryhill

Revival Scheduled At Newtown Methodist

There will be a revival at the Newtown United Methodist Church located west on Eufaula street one mile - north 1/2 mile.

The date is November 16-20 at 7:00 p.m each night. A different speaker each night. The theme is "Word & Deed" Rev. Jerry Baker is the pastor. Everyone is invited.

Birth Announcement-

CAMERON ROSS CHESBRO

Dr. Robert F. Chesbro and wife, Randi are happy to announce the birth of their second child, a son, Cameron Ross, born October 2, at St. Mary's Hospital in Bartlesville.

Cameron weighed seven pounds, seven and one-half ounces. He was welcomed home by his sister, Mackenzie Leigh. Cameron's maternal grandparents are Floriene Chesbro of Tahlequah and Grace Ludwig of Inola.

Creek Nation Run-off Election December 5

OU Academics Intersperced With Indian Studies

The culture and the accomplishments of the American Indian often have been ignored by educators, according to a University of Oklahoma dean who wants to make OU "the premier center in the country for the study of the American Indian."

"You need only look at most history books and most studies of American society to see American Indians treated stereotypically, often in a racist way," said Robert E. Hemenway, dean of the OU College of Arts and Sciences. "Indian tribes and individuals have made extraordinary contributions to society, which need to be studied, celebrated and recognized by academic institutions," he said.

Hemenway believes OU is a logical choice to assume leadership in the field. "This state has an extraordinary and unique cultural heritage because of the existence of so many Indians in our history. This is a resource we should be celebrating and building upon," he said.

Rather than create a formal program in which students would "major" in Indian studies, Hemenway instead hopes to increase opportunities within existing academic programs to highlight American Indian contributions to a variety of fields.

For example, during the current semester, the arts and sciences faculty includes a Mohawk Indian poet who is teaching a course in American Indian literature for the English department and a second class titled "American Indian Studies."

Maurice Kenny, who is visiting OU from North Country Community College, Saranac Lake, N.Y., supports Hemenway's efforts.

"This is the center of Indian Territory; OU has a major collection on Western history; and more Native Americans live in this part of the country. Why not here? he asked.

OU's Western History Collections, located in Monnet Hall, hold a treasure-trove, that includes tens of thousands of old books, photographs and original manuscripts dealing with various aspects of the Old West and frontier Oklahoma.

Kenny has discovered that both Indian and non-Indian students have gained understanding and appreciation from being exposed to unfamiliar material.

His class "is constructed to show the migration of Europeans into the Plains- from the Native American's point of view," he said. "The natives had a solid culture and a solid government in the East, which was tampered with, if not destroyed, by the European rush."

One problem faced by the professor was a dearth of textbooks or anthologies suitable for use in his classes. He provided a partial solution by creating his own history text.

In the literature class, he said, " We are looking at traditional stories, legends, poetry, prayers, chants and Indian oratory as literature. Some of this may by familiar to the Indian students in my class, but the non-Indian students had no idea this existed--or that it was considered literature. I think they're excited about it."

In addition, he has arranged for classroom visits by contemporary American Indian poets and, he said, "We've listened to tapes of deer songs and Iroquois war singers."

As winner of the 1984 American Book Award for "The Mama Poems" and author or editor of 60 books, Kenny has a personal reason for including songs within literature.

"I started by singing poems, rather than writing them down. My dad was a traditional singer. I was shy, so I'd go off and make up songs to the birds, animals and fish. When I was 12, I realized I could write those poems down, and my first poem was printed. It was pretty awful," he added with a laugh, "something about my mailbox.

"I still like to sing, but as age takes the vocal chords, I find I'm not writing the lyrics I used to write."

The change in his poetry has been personified, literally, by a series of narrative poems and "persona" poems written as if they were spoken by historical figures ranging from Cardinal Richelieu and the explorer LaSalle to Wolf Ant, a Mohawk, and Peacemaker, better known as Hiawatha.

Among his books in this style is "Blackrobe: Isaac Jogues," which tells of the first Jesuit missionary to enter an Iroquois village. "He was put to death and canonized a saint, " Kenny noted.

Just completed is "Tekonwatonti: Molly Grant (1735-1795), Poems of War." "Molly Grant was the sister of a great Mohawk warrior," he explained. "This is my baby about to be born. She's the love of my life."

Kenny also is co-publisher of Contact II, a multicultural poetry journal. Hemenway would like to see more faculty members like Kenny as well as more courses like his.

"We're trying to marshal our resources as well as add to these resources, so we can have a critical mass of faculty, undergraduates and graduate students to help the college become known nationwide as a good environment for American Indian studies and American Indian students."

Toward this end, he said, the College of Arts and Sciences is recruiting American Indian specialists for the departments of English and history. The department of anthropology is focusing on the Plains Indians. In addition, a lecture series in sociology will include three American Indian speakers.

"Native North American Media" Details Indian Communication Field Endeavors

The new softcover publications Native North American Media, scheduled for printing here Sept. 28, details contemporary Native American communications endeavors in the fields of newspapers, magazines, radio, television and organizational activity.

The gridwork of Native American media contained in this 176-page directory includes 480 Native newspapers, 43 regular magazines, 25 Indian radio stations, four news services, seven Indian media associations, the Indian college press, five minority journalism training programs, three newspaper archive services, a calendar of Native American communications historical milestones, a comprehensive bibliography on the development of Native American communications, and an exhaustive alphabetical index of all entries in the directory.

Two analytical tables in the publication portray comparative statistics between the Native American reservation and urban Indian press across the U.S., and the 25 tribally owned radio stations in 15 states together with their frequencies and audience shares.

Native North American Media also offers an unique introduction to the Native press of the totality of North, Central and South America. One entire section is devoted exclusively to the Native press, radio, television and communications societies of Native Canada. A separate section, entitled "Hemispheric Native Media," tabulates Native publications and radio broadcasts in Greenland, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana and Peru.

A separate section tabulates 94 tribal alphabet systems in the United States by region, as well as 214 separate tribal alphabets in the hemispheric nations from Greenland to the tip of South America. Many of these tribal languages appear in writing in the Native press throughout the hemisphere.

Executive Editor Richard LaCourse, who oversaw coordination of data for the new publication, said the comprehensive listings can be used handily by Native communicators themselves to track all significant developments, events and personalities across the whole of Indian country. He said both the Indian and non-Indian public can use the new directory in targeting news releases to Indian readers, listeners and viewers through the print and electronic systems stretching across the U.S.

"Native journalists today in many ways exercise the role of the tribal interpreters of days gone past," said LaCourse. "They are the bearers of messages between the Native and non-Native communities. They also carry the role of traditional messengers and runners, by conveying specific and necessary messages among tribal communities in a timely and rapid manner. They traverse distances today by the means of print and the airwaves, but the function within the tribal communities is virtually identical. The role of tribal communicator is as vital today as it was in earlier times, and only the means have changed."

Added LaCourse: "If it is true that journalists write the first rough draft of history, then the Native journalists are catching in words, sound and images the landscape of contemporary Native America. The collective work of these communicators is of incalculable value to scholars, historians, Native American studies programs, and the training of Indian communicators themselves."

The sections on Native radio and television include opportunities for professional training across the U.S. for Indian and Native students. The section on minority journalism training programs contains relevant specifies on the American Newspaper Publishers Assn. Foundation, American Society of Newspaper Editors, Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Media Institute for Minorities and the Native American Communications and Career Development Inc.

For each of these groups, the descriptive profiles include programs and activities, workshop and conference opportunities, scholarships, internship programs and fellowships, required qualifications, job referral services, research opportunities, and specific publications targeted to minority students.

"The national establishment press of the U.S. over the past decade has exhibited a new consciousness and a new responsibility in hiring, retaining and promoting minority news personnel in news production, management and the business side of things," said LaCourse. "This section of the directory is intended to assist Indian journalism instructors and Indian students in establishing ongoing working relationships with these programs."

Native North American Media is available for $21.00 in the U.S., $22.00 outside the U.S. postage prepaid by writing: LaCourse Communications Corp., 919 Larson Bldg., 6 South 2nd St., Yakima, WA 98901. LaCourse Communications Corp. is an American Indian-owned communications firm chartered in 1983 under the Business Code of the Yakima in Washington state. Contact: Richard LaCourse, Tel: (509) 457-3786

THREE GENERATIONS OF CREEK CRAFTSWOMEN *displayed their work at the Indian Autumn Festival, October 17 in Muskogee. Shown at the festival, hosted by the Muscogee Indian Community, are, left to right, Rina Urquhart, great-grandmother, Angela Gibbs, an 11-year old fifth grader and her grandmother Nina Loftice. All reside in Okay.*

Muscogee Indian Community News—

By Turner Harjo

The Muscogee Indian Community is proud to announce that we made over $1,000.00 in our fund raising drive. The Arts and Craft's Festival was successful in the hours worked and planned activities, but the public turn-out very good. Only members and craftsmen saw the Tribal dance demonstration by Sam Proctor and Thomas Yahola's Dance group. Only community members saw Tom McKinny perform the hoop dance. Tom and his two sons performed the war dance and the Shield dance. There were two performances, Saturday morning and Saturday at 2:00 p.m.

The Tribal dance demonstrators enjoyed the cultural videos. They particularly enjoyed the Green Corn Festival and the stickball game videos as they saw many of their friends playing. The ball game was videoed at Greenleaf Talova Edulwv. Arts and Crafts, we had them. Food sales we had that. Ticket raffle we had that too. The turtle race was cancelled, no entries, no turtles...too cold.

On to the future, we will be having our Indian Harvest Dinner on November 20, 1987 Adults $3.50 and children under 12, $1.50. We hope to see you there. Community members should be considering the upcoming Christmas parade, the deadline is November 13, 1987. It has come to the attention of this reporter that many community members are not receiving the public attention deserved them for their accomplishments. If anyone wishes to have his accomplishments known, be it news clippings, written contribution, tell or call M.I.C. reporter at 682-0825 Creek Nation Social Services and leave message or call direct, after 6:00 p.m., 687-6940 (no collect calls). Let me just say, if it isn't printed. I have not heard about it.

We want to wish Rina Urguhart a speedy recovery from her recent eye operation. Our sympathys go out to Williard Pittman concerning his mother. We want to wish Grover Schoonerover a speedy recovery from the hospital. Happy Birthday to, Martha Bunner, Karen Gateman, Janelle Washington, Rev. Bill Washington, Dick Posey, Alice Schoonover, and Lottie Billy. May you all live a long time.

Beading class is from 7:00 p.m to 9:00 p.m Tuesdays; Joe Washington is the teacher. Ceramic Class begins soon, be concerned and get involved.

ASK YOUR DENTIST. . .

By Dr. Kim leavenworth
CN Okmulgee Dental Clinic

What is the best time to start taking my child to the Dentist?. . .

Parents have a great responsibility in preparing their children for his or her first visit to the dentist. A child should first see a dentist when they are 2 1/2 to 3 years old. At this time all or nearly all the baby teeth are present.

Most adults or teenagers who 'hate' to go to the dentist have had a bad experience as a child in a dental office. This bad experience ususally happens when a child has a toothache and must see a dentist. Then it is often too late to give a child a painless first dental visit.

Complete numbing of a painful tooth with novocaine is sometime very difficult. This is one reason why children should have routine checkups before he has dental pain or needs treatment.

Your child's first visit to the dentist should be pleasant. Parents should avoid negative comments about dental treatment, for this will only build fear into the child's expections. Most scheduled first time appointments are for cleaning, x-rays and evaluation. Fillings or other treatment will be taken care at a later appointment.

Good dental health is an important part of your child's development and general health. It is a parent's responsibility to give a child a good first dental experience.

Morning Star Outreach Visits Four Correctional Institutions

Morning Star Outreach is continuing their outreach efforts in the area of Prison Ministry work. This past month we have visited four Correctional Centers, holding services at Stringtown Correctional Center, Jackie Brannon at McAlester, Conners Correctional Center at Hominy and Lloyd Rader Center in Sand Springs.

This was our first visit to the Lloyd Rader Center which is a correctional center for children 13 to 18 years old. We were able to hold two services, one in the minimum security section and one in the maximum section.

Each service began with brother Rev. Negiel Bigpond ministering in music. Brothers Jacque McDaniels and Gene Wright who are students at Rhema Bible Training Center accompanied us on this visit. Brother McDaniels shared with the youth he story of his younger brother who had been searching for love but was misguided by the wrong type of people and eventually ended up in trouble. His message ministered to the hearts of the youth. Afterward an invitation was given with many coming forward requesting prayers.

We have had two new members join our Outreach work, they are sister Glenda Steele and brother Jackie Carson. Both Glenda and Jackie share their muscial talents and testimony. We are always in need of new workers in the outreach, if you would like to be a part of this type of ministry work, please contact Glenda Steele or Negiel Bigpond at P.O. Box 97, Bixby, OK. 74008. At the present time we do have need of laborers who would like to help with the setting up and taking down of sound and musical equipment.

Brother Negiel has also been busy with other areas of ministry in visiting churches and participating in Revivals and making hospital visitations.

In closing we ask that you keep Morning Star Ministry in your prayers, for strength, wisdom and financial blessings. We want to be available to the needs of the people if we can be of any assistance, please contact Morning Star Outreach Center, P.O. Box 97, Bixby, OK. 74008

OCU Awarded Indian Law Grant

OKLAHOMA CITY--A $350,000 grant has been awarded to the Oklahoma City University School of Law by the Hatton W. Sumners Foundation of Dallas. The University will use $250,000 of the grant to help establish a Native American Legal Resource Center and ancillary chair in American Indian Law, with the remaining $100,000 to be allocated by scholarships.

Monies for the legal resource center match an earlier gift from the Sarkeys Foundation of Norman and will be paid to the law school over a seven-year period.

The legal resource center will assist lawyers and others confronted by often perplexing issues concerning American Indian law. "OCU is the logical place for such a center, greatly needed because of our state's large Native American population and the growing number of disputes involving Indian litigants and tribes and jurisdictional questions affecting state and tribal governments," explained OCU School of Law Dean Stuart Strasner.

According to OCU Professor Dennis Arrow, acting director of the Native American Legal Resource Center, there have been numerous significant cases concerning state governmental authority to regulate and tax Indian businesses and money raising operations such as bingo, mineral extraction and recreation areas. In addition, there have been disputes over Indian water rights, the effects of Indian tribal sovereignty and the authority and role of the Bureau of Indian affairs. The resource center would offer help to those dealing with such problems, as well as those impacted by these disputes.

The $100,000 earmarked for scholarships represents the second donation of its kind by the Sumners Foundation for the 1987-88 academic year. Dean Strasner related, "The Foundation earlier presented us with a $125,000 gift for our current year scholarship fund. The additional monies resulted when their trustee board decided more funding was appropriate as the number of Hatton W. Sumners scholars increases."

In addition to the $100,000 grant for the scholarships, the Sumners Foundation *already provides 12 full,* three-full scholarships with book and living stipends, to OCU law students. These scholarships, renewable annually to those in the top one-quarter of their class, are given to those demonstrating not only ability, but leadership qualities as well.

OCU's goal is a $1.25 million endowment for the legal resource center and chair in American Indian Law. The professor occupying the chair will specialize in American Indian Law, serve as a guest lecturer, conduct, research, write about Indian law problems and consult with the tribes and attorneys involved with Indian law related disputes.

The Sumners Foundation is a private, charitable foundation created by the late Hatton W. Sumners, a Texas congressman for 35 years and former chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

AAIP Set Pre-Admission Workshop Nov. 20-22

The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) in cooperation with the Dartmouth Medical School in Hanover, New Hampshire, will be holding a Pre-Admission Workshop, Friday through Sunday, Nov. 20-22, 1987. College juniors and seniors with an interest in Medicine, Osteopathic Medicine, Dentistry, Veterinary Medicine, Optometry, Pharmacy or Podiatry (MODVOPP) are encouraged to apply. Freshman and Sophomores will also be given consideration. All expenses will be paid, including lodging, a small meal allowance and airfare or mileage.

If interested, contact the Association of American Indian Physicians, 10015 S. Pennsylvania, Building D. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, 73159 (405—692-1202) for further information.

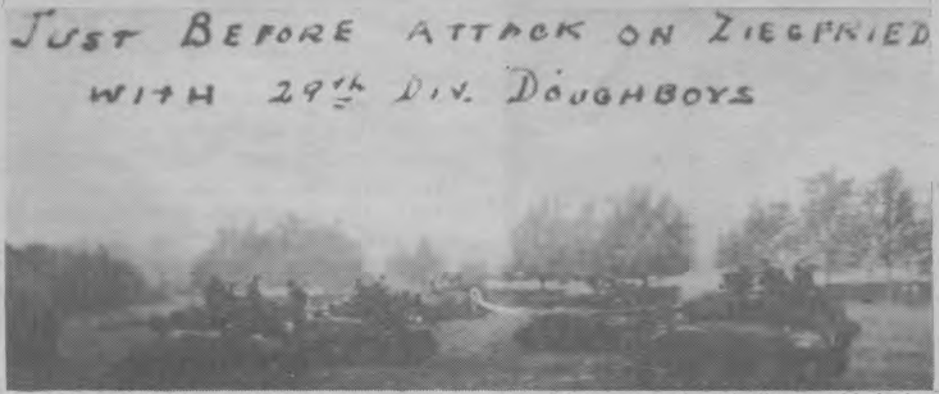
Creek's Diary of WW II. . .

Famed "Hell on Wheels" WW II Tank Sergeant Recalls D-Day Invasion and End of War

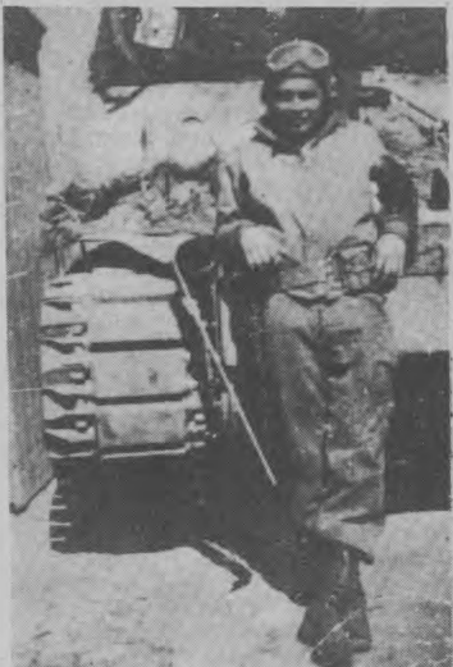
By Monroe Sulphur
Edited by Kathryn Bell

Monroe Sulphur, fullblood Creek, served during World War II as a Tank Sergeant with the famed armored tank division "Hell on Wheels." His accounts and actual combat photos of the D-Day Invasion (which Sulphur and his company joined on the second day of the that historic event) and liberation of German-held cities from the northern part of England, to the coast of France and into Normandy and onward, show the valor and heroic patriotism displayed by our fighting men in the hardship of the War.

Sulphur currently lives and works in Tulsa. He will be retiring soon after many years of work in the publishing and printing industry.



***The cold, miserable days of the war following D-Day** are evident as this photo indicates with the icy roads and somber weather- all of which added hardship to the already hard existence of the troops, even though victory was just ahead.*



Sulpher's duties as a tank crewman were many. . .

One crewman was always left on the tank radio which had a transmitter and receiver set. In the above photo, the receiver is in my helment ear flaps, a transmitter wire and botton is on my chest. When this picture was made - it was a very cold day. We had to make it through the snow. If you will notice, the pine boughs in the turret and the burlap right above the tanks - it was to catch all the snow it could. The snow would make the tanks blend in with all the snow around. Chicken wire would be used to strap on the boughs to catch snow which would camoflage us somewhat. Getting too much oil on your boots could really make it miserable for you in the cold night. Sometimes it might have been warmer to pull them off.

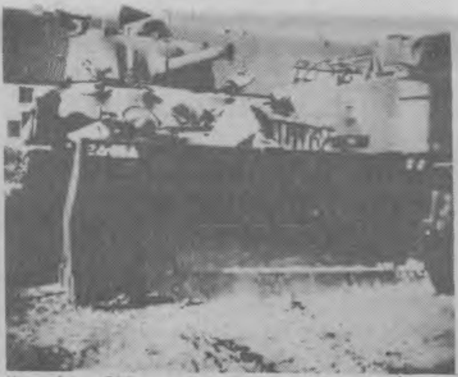
In the photo of me standing beside the tank, there was probably a meeting or a hot meal around so the rest of the crew had gone and I was on duty to take any incoming messages. Like in this instance, the first message would be "Get ready to move out!" After the rest of the crew members had scrambled back in and hooked up, then the next order would be "Move out!" and we would roll again with the tanks communicating with one another.

***A formidable foe, the American Army,** was "hell on wheels" during the war because of the fighting and fire power of their tanks.*

In the picture of the tanks, the arsenal is shown - on the top is a 50-caliber machine gun for any planes giving us or the infantry trouble. A 30-caliber is mounted right along side the big gun. That 30 was deadly enough in itself, but it was also used to estimate range for the big gun to fire. There is also a mortar mounted on top of the tank.

Individual weapons for the crew were, pistols for the tank commander and the gunners. Drivers, assistant drivers and the assistant gunners carried submachine guns. The assistant driver's job was also to fire another 30-caliber mounted right in front of him on the tank.

The tanks were an integral part of the Army's fighting force. . .



***American GI ingenuity converted the** tank war machines, making them adaptable to the terrain, by welding dozer blades to the tank fronts.*

In the early fighting in France, and in probably some of the worst and fiercest fighting - the blades on a dozer were brought in by GI ingenuity - they mounted them onto the tanks. Before that, they molded huge prongs to the front of the tanks.

Our combined troops could not move any more than a few hundred yards a day at most after the invasion. We were in what was known as "hedge row" fighting. Looked like bodark (bois d'arc) trees growing atop every mound of dirt that was used for fences. All the farms were bordered with the mounds and trees therefore the hedgerow.

The tanks couldn't get through the mounds to advance the troops. So they mounted the prongs, then later brought in the dozer blades and mounted them.

Those groaning airplane engines or Ford-made engines would push back those mounds so they could advance with the infantry. The infantry would huddle behind the tanks and fan out. One of their big guns or a tank fired right through the top right side of one those blades.

Fog, drizzle or just rain could make it just a day to day survival.It took quite a while to get out of the hedgerows, with many casualties.

". . .so many of the troops were just boys- too old for their age- they were young in body, but you could see the wear and tear in their faces."

***A young 18 year-old Sulpher** (right) is shown with his GI buddy, both tank crewmen.*

After finally getting out of the hedgerows, we started liberating more towns and villages. The people of these places started seeing more and more American troops and they turned out in force. We had a "no-fraternization" orders, so we talked to or trusted no one. In trying to thank the troops, the people would offer us what little they had. Things like French brandy, champagne and even eggs - and maybe we would take a bottle for "medicinal" purposes and roll on.

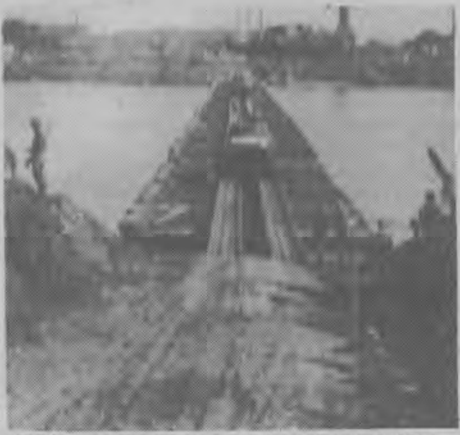
After the troops advanced beyond us, our tank and crew were moved to the rear for repairs. They had a specially built trailer and truck to transport tanks, called the "tarantula."

In the crossing of the pontoon bridges, both sides would fight all the way to the bridge. The enemy would fight hard, but would be defeated. During these early morning crossings, we would be waiting for our turn to cross. We would have to get a hot meal in at some point, so we did, thanks to the infantry and engineers (who helped build the pontoon bridges to cross) battalions. They deserved every bit of the credit. When we got ready to cross, they'de say ' Where have you guys been?' 'Didn't you know there was a war going on?' and we'd answer - 'We didn't even know you guys were here - or that you were even on our side!' Even when life there was the toughest, they could still laugh. But many times, they didn't know that we had traveled all the day before to get to the crossing - but the credit for allowing us to cross still belonged to them...

Close Calls for GI's

One evening we had this town to capture before we could call it a day. It was getting close to dark and there was enemy fire coming from one of the steeples. The tanks came to a halt and they gave one of the gunners an estimated range and told him to fire when ready. All the binoculars were concentrated on the enemy-held steeple - the gunner fired and the steeple fell in flames - a perfect hit.

We had many close calls, like the one I remember where a bazooka hit the track part of our tank, but I guess it was another one of those days when we were destined to live - because if it had hit a little higher, it would have hit where we carry the ammunition for the big gun and the machine guns.



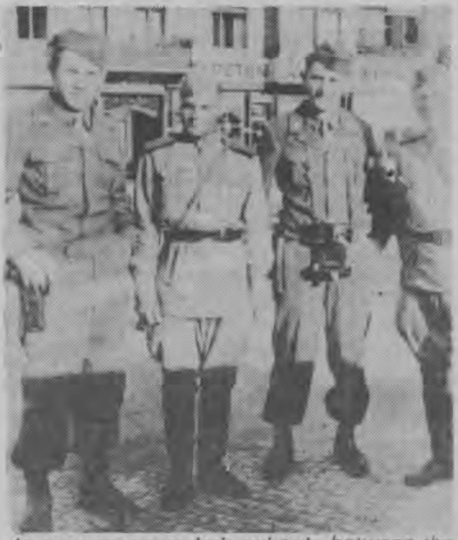
Tanks are shown crossing the pontoon bridge *after a fight that ensued up to the river crossing - the infantry, who went in front of the troops usually got the worst end of the battle.*

I was wounded in battle just after we liberated France and were getting ready to take Berlin, so I did not get to see some of the action.

I rejoined the outfit later, after being in a hospital in England. The driver, me as the gunner and the tank commander got injured at the same time. They told us that a huge railroad gun had hit us - the driver and tank commander never made it back to our outfit. . .

We had to wait until night before they could evacuate us off the front. I was evacuated along with some infantrymen who had been wounded or worse. They had me scheduled to fly out to England with a load of wounded, but I got bumped off the flight due to the large number of injured. I had to ride the hospital train to the coast of France.

Sulpher, wounded in battle, relates his evacuation. . .



An uneasy comaraderie existed *between the Russian soldiers and the American troops. Shown are some of Sulphur's company posing with Russian soldiers in Berlin.*

A photo taken atop a tank as it enters a French city *shows the people gathered outside to welcome the troops and witness the liberation of their German-held cities.*

The hospital train was moving troops that were battle fatigued and who had concussions. In addition to my wound, I had a concussion. You could not disturb the poor battle fatigued in any way - they even had curtains around them, keeping them separated. It was a silent trip, because you never knew who was behind the next curtain.

So many of the troops were just young little old men - too old for their ages - they just went silently along, never looking up - you would look for someone you knew - other Indians or anyone. Everything was so silent - even in those dark mornings when we ate - instead of saying "hi" - other tank crews would just slide their hand across your shoulder and walk on.

I've always felt that war was a breakdown of political communication - the warmongers begin wars - but somewhere a mother is always crying over her lost son...

The enemy battles in vain. . .

Sometimes we would run upon whole companies of infantry at a time resting on the highways. They would raise up as if to battle us but seeing how outnumbered they were - they settled back down. We would relieve them of all their weapons and leave some infantry men in charge of them and move on.

When it was eminent that we were going to overrun their cities or that there would be a big battle for the cities, they would sound their air raid sirens. Sometimes they would place machine guns in their highest towers or steeples that would endanger our infantry. If we got report that they were firing from these high places, they had to be brought down. For more fire power, we could sometimes radio back to the artillery set up some 15 to 20 miles back. We'd give them a reading of our position on the map, then ask for a white phosphorous round. When it exploded ahead of us (we hoped), it would make a white cloud of smoke. Then we could direct them onto the target. Then the whole battery of artillary guns could just about demolish and level anything. From the time we gave them a reading, of our positions, ask for that certain round of smoke - they would make their adjustments. We would then radio in "fire when ready."

Heavy artillery fire minimized our work through large cities if there was a large concentration of anything.

Every morning from the maps, we would get orders to how much territory to cover that day. With tank and infantry units to our right and left, they tried to capture the same amount of terrritory. Some units would be held up more because of the heavy resistence they encountered.

The closing days of the war. . .

On these cold, miserable days of fighting, we would take on gas and ammunition while most of the civilians were still asleep. The roads were icy and there were many days of fog, drizzle, freezing rain and snow. It was during this weather as we advanced that the poor infantry would "piggyback" on the backs of the tanks. Toward the ending days of the war, this piggybacking occurred frequently. Some days we would travel on land, the next day on the highway - the enemy never knew for sure where we would be at any given time, and they were in a disorganized retreat. During this time, we encountered the first enemy jet planes - they circled but we fired the 50-calibers atop the tanks and the planes flew off and didn't bother us anymore. Probably for psychological effect, but the enemy was already in dissipation.

Near the end of the fighting, we began to capture more and more territory - we were going so fast that we were over extending our gas supply lines - they said that at the rate we were going, we could capture Berlin if our gas supply held out. But the powers to be had already determined that the Russians would take it. The later part of the war - they were getting some new tanks to us. We just called them the "nineties." We got new uniforms and boots and our division insignias were printed back on the tanks and their feminine names like Evelyn, Elaine etc. were printed back on. We had been trying to travel secretly with any means of identifying us always wiped away. But you can't exactly hide a tank division going from front to front.

American troops joined forces with Russians, converge in Berlin. . .

We soon learned that we would occupy the American sector of Berlin. We would be meeting the Russians again that we had already met and joined forces with at a river crossing a while back. I guess that's why they were outfitting us whole-hog - we were uptown and first class and would represent all the forces there at one time. They also issued us cigars. It was quite a sight. All the tank divisions and it's components were moving out to Berlin. These tanks divisions were moving out left and right - but it was our Second Armored "Hell On Wheels" division that was selected to go to Berlin - why, I don't know, but they called us crack troops and besides, this armored division had already fought in Africa and all the way through Europe. These men were battle scarred old vets already. I only joined them in the early part of the invasion.

When we got to Berlin, we paraded in front of the Russian General Zukov, the highest general of all the Russian forces.

A day of victory in Berlin brings war to close. . .

In the large open area that was to accomodate all the combined forces that day, the band played for the ground troops and the tanks rumbled by the general's reviewing stand. Some of newest planes would come down close to the ground for a fly-by as soon as we reassembled into our ranks. But General Zukov's parade was only the beginning - when we lined up the tanks on the autobahn leading into Berlin, here came the generals, even those from other nations - they all inspected our tanks. Included with the generals was President Truman.

Some of our duties while in Berlin was to patrol the American sector, and although it was at the end of the war, we were still to be alert for any Russians coming into our sector. I will just say it was tough and dangerous to deal with them, but we still got along.

In Berlin, cigarettes were $100 a carton. Some of the Russian soldiers hadn't been paid since fighting from Stalingrad and they had the cash. If you just had a Mickey Mouse watch or a colored dial faced watch, they would buy them for thousands of dollars. Some soldiers would approach you with three or four watches on each arm, and buying more.

Our last job was to end with the paratroopers relieving us. We came back to the same city that we had left to go into Berlin. I was in this company of tanks with three other Indian men. A Reed, a Choctaw from McAlester, a Knox from Tulsa and a DeLarme, an Indian from Wyoming. There was also another Oklahoman in this outfit - a Boone. I have run across him, but have never seen or heard from the rest since.

The old "Hell On Wheels" must have finished their job with them being the very first troops in Berlin. They also were awarded one of France's highest decorations - the Croix de Guerre. And from our country, they were entitled to wear the Presidential Unit Citation.

I was discharged in 1945 as a tank sergeant with the "Hell on Wheels" armored division. During the course of the war, which I entered in 1943 when I was drafted, I advanced from private to corporal to tank sergeant third class and then to tank sergeant with my own tank. After the war I came home. . .

—Sulphur, born in Eufaula, was one of four children born to Alex and Fannie Sulphur. His father was an Indian doctor, his mother an interpretor. He was raised in Sapulpa and has been a life-long member of the Okfuskee Indian Baptist Church of Eufaula.

U.S. Senators Introduce Legislation Concerning Indian Artifacts And Establishment of National Museum of the American Indian

By Helen Chalakee

Two pieces of federal legislation have recently been introduced by U.S. Senators concerned over the placement of Indian artifacts owned by the Heye Foundation to the Smithsonian Institution has brought about a great amount of support from across the Nation.

S. 1722 was introduced by the Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Indian affairs, Senator Daniel Inouye.

Senator Inouye's bill calls for the transfer of the collection of the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation to the Smithsonian Institution. Inouye stated the collection is inadequately housed in three separate facilities in the Bronx, New York and is not labeled or categorized. The senator said his first thoughts after viewing the collection in its present state was "how obscene!"

Provisions of Inouye's bill call for the creation of an institution to be built on the National Mall in the District of Columbia for the purpose of interring skeletal remains presently in the custody of the Smithsonian and commemorating and memorializing Indian Nations that have disappeared in the process of European settlement on this continent and recognizing the Indian tribes and nations that live on their ancestorial lands within the United States and acknowledging their historical contributions to American society.

S. 1723, introduced by Senator Jeff Bingaman, deals with the distribution of the artifacts to regional museums.

Senator Inouye has asked for tribal input to be submitted at a November 12 Congressonal Hearing concerning the legislation.

S. 1972

A bill to authorize the establishment of the National Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation within the Smithsonian Institution, and to establish a memorial to the American Indians and for other purposes; by unanimous consent, referred jointly to the Committee on Rules and Administration and the Select Committee on Indian Affairs.

Introduced by Mr. Inouye (for himself, Mr. Evans, Mr. Byrd, Mr. Cranston, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Deconcini, Mr. Burdick, Mr. Daschle, Mr. Murkowski, Mr. McCain, Mr. Bingaman, Mr. Boschwitz, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Cochran, Mr. Conrad, Mr. Domenici, Mr. Gore, Mr. Gramm, Mr. Levin, Mr. Matsunaga, Mr. Pell, Mr. Reid, Mr. Riegel, Mr. Rockfeller, Mr. Rudman, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Sanford, Mr. Simon, Mr. Wirth, Mr. Boren, and Mr. Melcher):

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL ACT

MR. INOUYE. Mr. President, the city of Washington is often referred to as the city of monuments. In addition to nationally known monuments there are hundreds of other monuments and statues. The U.S. Capitol Building houses over 150 statues. Each state is entitled to honor two of its most distinguished citizens and residents.

History record the wisdom, gallantry, and the leadership of many Indian chiefs and leaders. But there are no statues or monuments in Washington, the city of monuments, to honor or remember these great Americans.

The history of American Indians has many sad and tragic chapters. One of the most tragic chapters is that of the so-called Indian wars- a period covering 90 years beginning in the early 1800's- which left the Indian population decimated.

It may interest my colleagues to know that 300 years ago, at the time we began our formal relationship with Indian nations, there were at least 12 million Indians residing in the continental United States. At the end of the Indian wars 250,000 remained in our land.

During that time the American government systematically violated provisions of treaties that recognzied Indian sovereignty over lands, and began pushing and forcing Indians out of the fertile areas of our continent that they had traditionally occupied, into arrid, mountainous, uninhabitable regions of our country. Pursuant to federal policy and legislation. All Indians residing east of the Mississippi River were targeted for removal to lands west of the Mississippi. In the famous Trail of Tears, the Cherokee were removed from Tennessee and Gerogia, and North Carolina to the so-called Oklahoma Indian Territory. During what is known as the Long Walk, the Navajos were forced to walk from Fort Sill, OK, to Fort Sumner, N.M.. But when the Navajos finally arrived in New Mexico, the commanding officer observed: "Would any sensible man select a spot for a reservation for 8,000 Indians where the water is scarely bearable, where the soil is poor and cold, and where the mesquite roots 12 miles distant are the only wood for the Indians to use?"

And when gold was discovered, the Black Hills were taken from the Sioux tribes in violation of their 1888 treaty- an action that the U.S. Supreme Court later described as "a more ripe and rank case of dishonorable dealing will never, in all probability, be found in our history." These are just the better known examples.

During this period, the following directive was issued by Army General Madison Mills, and I wish to quote from the Surgeon General's January 13, 1868 message: "Medical officers in your department (understand) the importance of collecting for the Army medical museum specimans of Indian cranial and of Indian weapons and utensils, so far as they may be able to procure them. . .the Surgeon General is anxious that our collection of Indian cranial, already quite large, should be made as complete as possible, and that we should preserve likewise illustrations of the weapons of the fast disappearing tribes."

This directive was sent to the officers and men who were serving our national interest in the Indian wars. As a result, history shows that sacred Indian burial grounds were desecrated: recently killed Indians were stripped of their flesh, and the skeletal remains of over 18,000 Indians were shipped to Washington. There is no way of knowing how many exactly how many skulls and bones were sent to Washington in response to the call of the Army surgeon general, and most of these remains serve no scientific, archealogical ,or medical purposes. Most of these skeletal remains have no identity other than the general area from which they came. These remains cry out for a proper resting place. If there are spirits, and many believe that there are. They too must be seeking a resting place.

Today, as the Nation commemorates the American Indian by designating this day, National Indian Day, I am honored together with many of my colleagues, to introduce a measure that will finally provide a proper resting place for these spirits and skeletal remains. It will also provide an appropriate exhibit facility- a museum- to exhibit the history, the culture, the extraordinary artifacts, and the many significant contributions of the Indians who resided on this continent and their descendants.

At this moment, in a warehouse in the Bronx, is a priceless treasure of Indian artifacts that were collected by George Gustav Heye during his lifetime. There are so many of these aftifacts that they are still in the process of being cataloged.

It has been said that there are over one million artifacts in this collection- hundreds of pre-Columbian arrowheads, pre-Columbian tomahawks, hundreds of Navajo rugs, hundreds of Indian baskets, an unequalled collection of Indian pottery, headdresses, buffalo robes, cradle boards, medicine bundle, burial moccasins, wampum belts, totem poles, ceremonial dresses, spiritual masks, catlinite peace pipes, dugout canoes, wood carvings from Pacific Northwest and Alaska, whole sections of longhouses, hundreds of Kachina dolls, and weapons of war, including the rifles of Geronimo, Sitting Bull, and Crazy Horse.

It is a mind boggling collection with no exhibition area. I visited this warehouse. The first thought that came to my mind was "how obscene!", priceless, sacred items that would find a place of honor in any of the world's great museums, are found on shelves and not even labeled.

Under the provisions of this bill, this collection can be exhibited, viewed and studied by Indians, so that they can have access to their glorious past and the many contributions that their ancestors have made to America. Non-Indians will have the opportunity to develop a better understanding of the precious contributions that this country's native people have made to our history.

I believe the time has come to honor and remember the greatness of the first Americans, their wisdom, their leadership, their valor, and their contributions to the people of the United States.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

Washington, Friday, September 25, 1987

By Mr. Bingaman (for himself and Mr. Inouye) S. 1723. A bill to authorize the establishment of certain regional exhibition facilities as part of the Museum of the American Indian, and for other purposes; referred to the Select Committee on Indian Affairs.

AMERICAN INDIAN REGIONAL MUSEUM ACT

Mr. Bingaman. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the American Indian Regional Museum Act-legislation I hope will take the rich national collection of Indian Art and artifacts closer to the citizens of this Nation.

I was pleased to join many of my colleagues earlier today in introducing the National American Indian Museum and Memorial Act. That legislation would establish the National Museum of the American Indian within the Smithsonian Institution. I strongly support Senators Byrd and Inouye in their desire to bring this important collection to the Smithsonian and our Nation's Capital.

My legislation, which is cosponsored by Senator Inouye, would go one step further. It should authorize the Smithsonian, with the cooperation of the National Park Service, to extablish five regional museums in the United States so that more of our citizens can enjoy our national treasurer of Indian art and culture. It is incumbent upon us to make these treasurers as available to as many Americans as possible. The regional museums would do that, and in so doing, enrich and educate the American people.

While we are celebrating that great document, our Constitution, we should also recognize that the land is filled with other treasures that must be preserved, protected, and appreciated.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to print the bill in the RECORD at this point:

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: S. 1723, Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, Short Title, Section 1, This Act may be cited as the "American Indian Regional Museum Act of 1987". Findings, Section 2, The Congress finds that--

(L) the collection of Indian art and artifacts of the Museum of the American Indian represents a genuine national treasure that deserves to be shared by all citizens of this country;

(2) although this museum contains over 1,000,000 art objects and artifacts collected from Indian tribes throughout the United States and is the largest such collection in the world, there are no regional facilities where these artifacts can be displayed for the enjoyment and appreciation of all citizens;

(3) only 5 percent of the permanent collection of the Museum is on public display leaving the remaining 95 percent unavailable for viewing by the American public;

(4) many of these artifacts have been taken from Indian communities, and there is little opportunity for these objects to be returned to the areas from which they were collected;

(5) this denies many people the ability to appreciate the rich legacy of the American legacy and Alaskan Native heritage;

(6) additionally, there is no national interpretative or educational program to provide local schools and communities the opportunity to enjoy the significant collection; and

(7) in order to enrich our appreciation of the cultural achievements of the Indian people, it is necessary to create a national system of regional facilities where these artifacts can be properly displayed and appreciated.

REGIONAL FACILITIES, Sec. 3. (a) At such time as the United States acquires the Museum of the American Indian, Heye Foundation, the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, in consultation and cooperation with the Secretary of the Interior, is authorized to establish in each of the southwestern, northwestern, northeastern, and southeastern parts of the United States, and in the States of Hawaii and Alaska, a suitable facility for the purpose of using each such facility as a permanent regional exhibition facility as part of the Museum of the American Indian, and to prepare such architectural and engineering designs, plans and specifications of such facilities as may be necessary for purposes of this Act. Each such facility shall be operated and maintained as a regional facility and as part of such Museum.

(b)(1) Each facility established pursuant to this section shall provide exhibit space for Indian artifacts as well as serve as a comprehensive interpretative and educational center that would highlight the significant historical, artistic, and cultural achievements of the Indian people of the region in which such facility is established.

(2) It shall be the function of each such facility, among others to sponsor and coordinate a variety of traveling representative exhibits to schools and to local communities in each region. Such exhibits shall stress the rich cultural legacy of the Indian people and increase educational awareness among citizens in each region.

TEN EDUCATORS are recipients of 1987-88 Foundations in Native Education Fellowships from the College of Education at the University of Oklahoma. They are (standing, back row from left) Gloria Sly and Shelly Butler-Allen, both of Tahlequah; Suzanne Weryackwe of Norman; Gus Palmer Jr. of Oklahoma City; Jerry Bread, director of the FINE program at OU; Dorna Riding In of Earlsboro and (front row from left) Jo Lynn Digranes and Carol Wahpepah, both of Norman, and Debbie Harragarra and Kathy Sutmiller, both of Yukon. The fellowships are awarded to Native American educators based on academic and leadership potential and demonstrated current and previous service to Native American communities.

Indian Educators Receive FINE Fellowships

Ten educators are the recipients of Foundations In Native Education Fellowships for the 1987-88 academic year from the College of Education at the University of Oklahoma. The fellowship is awarded to Native American educators based on academic and leadership potential and demonstrated current and previous service to Native American communities.

After being awarded the fellowship, recipients enroll in advanced degree programs in educational administration areas, both at the master's and doctoral level. Upon completion of the degree, the fellowship recipients are encouraged to seek employment in a public school sector where there is a significant number of Native American students enrolled.

"This year's Foundations In Native Education Leadership program introduces the doctoral component," said Jerry C. Bread, director of the FINE program at OU. "We are excited about this component because we feel it completes one of our goals, which was to initiate emphasis in an area where data indicated limited participation from the Native American population," Bread explained.

Another way the FINE program is hoping to use the research conducted by the fellowship recipients is to improve current educational literature on Indian education, which now reflects reservation perspectives.

"There is need to provide a complete picture of Indian educators in the United States, " said Gene Shepherd, co-director of the FINE program at OU. "Hopefully the students in the FINE program will contribute to educational research reflecting the non-reservation perspective so prevalent in areas such as Oklahoma," he noted.

People wanting information on the FINE program can call 405/325-5463: or write Foundations in Native Education, College of Education, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019. Recipients of the 1987-88 Foundations In Native Education Fellowships are; Earlsboro-Dorna Riding In, Pawnee tribe of Oklahoma. Lawton--Robbie Maxey, Comanche tribe of Oklahoma. Norman--Jo Lyn Digranes, Creek Nation of Oklahoma; Carol Wahpepah, Kickapoo tribe of Oklahoma; and Suzanne Weryackwe, Pawnee tribe of Oklahoma. Oklahoma City--Gus Palmer Jr., Kiowa tribe of Oklahoma. Tahlequah--Shelly Butler--Allen, Kiowa tribe of Oklahoma, and Gloria Sly, of Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. Yukon--Debbie Harragarra Nambe Pueblo Tribe of New Mexico, and Kathy Sutmiller, Choctaw tribe of Oklahoma.

Deer Named by Industry Council Outstanding Student in Hughes Co

The East Central Private Industry Council is proud to announce that Cindy Deer is the Outstanding Student for their Summer Training and Enrichment Program for Hughes County. Cindy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Deer of Holdenville. Cindy was presented with a $50 U.S. Savings Bond donated by First National Bank of Holdenville.

The STEP program was part of the Summer Youth Program for the job Training Partnership ACT (JTPA) in seven east central Oklahoma counties. ECPIC is the administering agency for the JTPA.

Art Johnson, Executive Director, stated that the Outstanding Student was chosen by their instructors on the basis of attendance, attitude, cooperation, and general improvement in reading and math.

Johnson added, "We were very fortunate to have students like Cindy in our program. We feel the program was quite a success due largely in part to the participants themselves. From what we have observed, the participants gained in many ways besides their reading and math skill levels."

ECPIC would like to thank the local school system for their cooperation and help in setting up the programs. They would also like to thank the instructors, Barbara Bishop and Marguerite Hearod for all their efforts in making the program the grand success it was.

Cindy is Creek, and attends Holdenville High School. Her grandparents are, Robert Deer, Holdenville, and Amanda Deer of Okmulgee and Minnie and J.D. Poole of Wetumka.

American Indian Dance Theatre Formed

This country's first national, professional company of American Indian dancers and musicians, The American Indian Dance Theatre, recently began performances to a very enthusiastic responses from the press and public.

The company of 26 dancers and musicians began performances in Colorado Springs in May of this year, following a three-week rehearsal period. The production continued on to play in Los Angeles at the Beverly Threatre in June. The dance critic for the Los Angeles Times said, "It is rare to witness the birth of a company that immediately shows it is something genuine and important, but such was the impact of the recently formed American Indian Dance Theatre. For once, the standing ovation at the end was deserved."

The company was assembled by Barbara Schwei, the producer, and Hanay Geiogamah, the director, over a period of one year. They selected the dancers and musicians from the most important American Indian dance festivals, pow wows and ceremonials in many regions. The result is a company of the finest performers in the United States and Canada.

The production is staged for the theatre; it preserves the authenticity of the traditional dances, but enhances them with theatrical staging and lighting. The director, Hanay Geiogamah, is a member of the Kiowa-Delaware tribes and the director of the Native Theatre Ensemble as well as adjunct professor of Indian Studies at UCLA. The choreographer, Raoul Trujillo is a Native American from New Mexico and, until recently, principal dancer with the Nikolais Dance Theatre.

The dancers represent many regions and tribes, among them; Saunders Bears Tail, Jr. (Mandan Hidatsa, North Dakota) Lisa Ewack (Sioux-Assiniboine/Cree-Saskatchewan) Phillip Kaiyou (Shoshoni-Bannock, Idaho) Chester Mahooty Group (Zuni, New Mexico) Marty Pinnecoose (Southern Ute, Oregon) Charles Tailfeathers (Cree , Oregon) Danell Tailfeathers (Confederated Tribes, Oregon) Morgan Tosee (Comanche, Oklahoma) Andy Vasquez (Apache Tribe of Oklahoma, Wyoming) Tom Mauchahty Ware (Kiowa-Comanche, Oklahoma) Clarence Wesley Group (San Carlos Apache, Arizona) Lloyd Yellowbird (Cree, Alberta).

American Indian Dance Theatre will continue to tour in this country and in Europe and the Far East. Future projects also include a television special and a film appearance.

It is hoped that this company can provide an opportunity for Native Americans to share their heritage and culture with this country and the rest of the world. For more information contact: Schwei Productions, Inc., 223 East 61st Street, New York, N.Y. 10021. Telephone 212/308-9555.

Creek Student Receives Honor from High School

Sutagee Anglin is a 14 year old Creek, who lives in Newton, North Carolina and attends Newton Conover High School.

Sutagee is the only Indian student in his school. Recently the school honored Indian Heritage week and Sutagee Anglin.

He is the son of Lydia Anglin and the grandson of Irene Lewis Cricklin and Claude Cricklin of Shawnee, Okla. His grandfather is Washie Lewis of Eufaula, Okla.

Native American Literature From West End Press. . .

Halfbreed Chronicles and Other Poems by Wendy Rose. 72 pages, 1985, $4.95. This is the eight volume of poems by this Hopi writer with a national following. Wendy Rose lives and teaches in Fresno, California.

"This new book is her strongest."

-Joseph Bruchac

"With courage and precison these *Halfbreed Chronicles,* tasting of tears and ashes, tally the truth of what matters."

-Andrew Wiget

Round Valley Songs by William Oandasan. 64 pages, 1984, $4.50. This sequence of four-line verses celebrates the survival of a nearly lost tribe. William Oandasan, a member of the Yuki tribe, lives in Los Angles and works at UCLA.

Round Valley Songs won the American Book Award from the Before Columbus Foundation in July, 1985. It joins outstanding works of multicultural literature in receiving this coveted award.

Columbus Day by Jimmie Durham. 140 pages, 1983, $4.50. Poems, narrative and sketches by this Cherokee artist and writer depicting Indian after the Anglo Invasion. Jimmie Durham lives and works in New York City.

The mystical drawings complement these hard-edged, lyric, bitter, humerous and always honest poems which, at their best, are, as the writer intended, "as eloquent as the sound of a rattlesnake."

-Peter Mathiessen

A Breeze Swept Through by Lucy Tapahonso. Luci is a Navajo Indian born and raised in Shiprock, New Mexico. She is the author of two earlier books of poetry, *One More Shiprock Night* and *Seasonal Woman,* and is frequently anthologized. Illustrations by Jaune Quick-to See Smith, who is a member of the Flathead tribe and a painter who exhibits internationally. She is an activist and spokeswoman for both traditional and contemporary Native artists.

To order copies send the cover price (postage free) to: WEST END PRESS, P.O. box 27334, Albuquerque, NM 87125.

Reprint of the first in a series appearing October 4, 1987, Arizona Republic-

Fraud in Indian Country. . .

Alan Moyer, managing editor of Arizona Republic says, "Over the past 200 years, the United States government has made hundreds of treaties with Indian tribes across this country, which, in essence, moved them to isolated reservations in return for promises to provide for their well being.

The U.S. government has spent billions of taxpayers' dollars earmarked to keep those promises. Some $3 billion was appropriated in 1987 alone. But despite such enormous expenditures, most of the nation's 1.4 million native Americans are living without adequate housing, education, health care or safety from criminals and profiteers.

It is a billion dollar betrayal of trust of the Indians and the American taxpayers. A generally disinterested Congress and thousands of bureaucrats have succeeded only in funding mammoth, intracible and unmanageable bureauracy which does not significantly improve life for the Indians, but ironically works against their best interests in order to justify its continued existence.

The Arizona Republic's investigative team spent six months and traveled thousands of miles to put together this special news report, "Fraud in Indian Country: A Billion Dollar Betrayal."

This compelling and shocking story is important not only because our government's failures have perpetuated human misery and despair, but also because so many taxpayers dollars intended to alleviate those problems have been wasted and misspent.

SERIES DETAILS MAZE OF WASTE-

The Arizona Republic published an eight-day investigative series on massive fraud and waste in America's Indian programs. This installment explains how badly managed federal programs burden taxpayers and fail to serve Indians. Subsequent stories detail incompetence, deceit and corruption in federal programs for education, housing, crime and economic development. "Fraud in Indian Country: A Billion-Dollar Betrayal" is a 30-story package showing how tax dollars have fed an intractable and poorly managed bureaucracy while needy Indians have suffered. Reprints of the series are available for $2.50 each, including postage and handling. Requests should be made to: The Arizona Republic, Fraud in Indian Country Series, P.O. Box 1950, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

Honor system license to loot-

U.S. fails to protect oil on Indian, federal lands

***Investigative team leader:** Mike Masterson; **Investigative reporter:** Chuck Cook; **Writers:** M.N. Trahant, Andy Hall and Mark Shaffer; **Researcher:** John Doherty.*

Oil companies have looted billions of dollars worth of oil and gas from Indian and federal lands, sometimes aided by negligent or corrupt government officials, The Arizona Republic has found.

A six-month investigation by the newspaper uncovered a story of government failures to carry out its responsibilites, thefts that some estimate amount to more than a billion dollars, illegal slush funds and questionably cozy relationships between oil companies and some public officials.

The federal oil and gas program, which is administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and two other Interior Department agencies, is so badly managed that it has shortchanged many Indians who have leased lands to oil companies, forcing onto welfare rolls some who own what should be lucrative shares in producing wells.

The program is "a system that totally relies on the good faith and trust of the (oil) producers" and whose potential for fraud is "phenomenal," according to Steven Moore, a Denver-based attorney who works with Indian issues.

Two current federal reports put recent losses at more than $11 billion, an amount equal to the tax dollars needed to run all BIA programs for more than 10 years.

But no one can put an exact dollar amount on oil and gas frauds wrought on Indian and federal lands.

A 1986 congressional study found that the federal government since 1979 has allowed oil companies to pump millions of barrels of oil from federal and Indian lands through an "honor system" that cost U.S. taxpayers and Indians an estimated $5.8 billion.

That admittedly flawed honor system allows oil firms to pay the government based on estimated production, because federal agencies have no way to accurately monitor the oil production.

Additionally, The Republic found the Bureau of Land Management, the BIA's sister agency under the Department of Interior, has stood by idly as companies illegally drained $5.7 billion worth of oil and gas from rich deposits beneath Indian and federal lands.

Not every oil producer is involved in the fraud. But even when honest companies pay for the oil and gas they take, the government's system of collecting royalties and getting that money to Indians or the U.S. Treasury is inept at best.

No federal or oil-company official has been charged with criminal wrongdoing. And there have been only a few criminal probes by the federal government, despite federal documentation of the fraud.

Resource management has been a horrendous failure for the most part and quite frankly borders on malfeasance of office," said Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz. "It's inexcusable."

Many at top echelons in government realize the extent of the mismanagement. But when they have tried to correct the decades-old oil and gas royalty problems, they quickly learned that the bureaucracy at the Interior Department is so ingrained that badly needed reforms are almost impossible.

In isolated cases, The Republic found, some BIA officials intentionally may have withheld minerals-royalty payments from poverty-stricken Indians so they could invest the money and divert interest payments into slush funds.

. . .Oklahoma Indians allege $28 million illegal BIA diversion-

In one instance, Indians in Oklahoma alleged that BIA offícals in the Anadarko area diverted $28 million from individual Indians and tribes into an illegal slush fund maintained under the phony name of "R.L. Larson."

Since 1985, the BIA has tried to prove or disprove that fraud allegation, but it cannot, because records covering several years needed to properly audit that account are missing.

A recent reporter by the Interior Department's inspector general raises doubt whether the truth will ever be known. The BIA "believes that the cost to search for the missing documentation would be prohibitive," the report said.

This, although the inspector general's office found at least $634,000 in "inappropriate" transactions involving the R.L. Larson account.

The effects of the mismanagement of the oil and gas program have been devastating to Indians.

The Republic documented many instances around the nation in which Indian lessors had their utilities turned off, cars or pickups repossessed or lost their homes because their lease an royalty payments were mishandled by the BIA and the Minerals Management Service, the third Interior Department agency that oversees the oil and gas program.

The losses to Indians and American taxpayers are staggering. . .

The losses to Indians and American taxpayers are staggering. The windfall to oil companies has been placed at more than $1 billion a year in studies by the Interior Department's inspector general, the General Accounting Office and congressional panels. The GAO is the investigative arm of Congress.

The collection and disbursement of oil and gas royalties is unnecessarily complicated, critics charge.

Oil companies bid competitively through the BIA for rights to drill on Indian and federal lands. The drilling and production are monitored not by the BIA, but by the Bureau of Land Management and the Minerals Management Service.

Companies pay a percentage of the value of the oil and gas they produce. The royalty payments, based on "estimated production," are made to the minerals service, which in turn disburses the money to the BIA.

The BIA then deposits the money in Individual Indian Money Accounts, from which it is supposed to be disbursed to Indian lessors.

If the oil is from federal public lands, the payments go from the minerals service into the Treasury.

Reports document fraud, waste and mismanagement. . .

Reports document fraud, waste and mismanagement at every stage of the leasing, royalty-collection and disbursing procedure.

At a recent budget hearing, Interior Department officials bristled at congressional allegations that companies may be illegally taking $1 billion worth of oil from federal and Indian lands each year.

The figure, according to William C. Bettenberg, director of the Minerals Management Service, was only in the hundreds of millions.

David Deal, managing attorney for the American Petroleum Institute, an oil lobby group, said Bettenberg's figures are "more realistic" than those in repeated federal studies.

"Our position is that we are not grossly underpaying," Deal said, adding that industry experts place underpayments at about 3 percent of the total royalties due to Indians.

That still would put the losses in the tens of millions each year.

Swimmer says, "losses are in millions". . .

BIA Director Ross Swimmer is in a minority who believe the losses are not in the billions.

"I would say the actual money issue, it could be millions of dollars," Swimmer said

Rep. Yates says, "according to GAO reports since 1979, losses are in BILLIONS!"

However, Rep. Sidney Yates, D-ILL,. chairman of the powerful House Interior appropriations subcommittee, sticks by his staff's 1986 study saying the losses since 1979 are in the billions. That report, he said,is based on staff research and General Accounting Office Findings.

"If you are asking me, 'Do I stand by our report?' the answer is yes," Yates said.

Most of the losses are through underpayments from oil companies that either lie about the amount of oil they take or about its value.

When Interior Department officials were asked during congressional hearings about thefts, they denied the existence of any theft problems.

But congressional investigators found that in the Farmington, N.M., Bureau of Land Management office alone, oil and gas thefts are reported almost daily and that little or no investigation is ever done.

A most recent issue of Washington Monthly singled out the oil and gas management as Washington's worst-run program.

Last year, during congressional hearings, Bettenberg, the Minerals Management Service director, acknowledged, "There's a certain amount of chaos out there."

Since 1955, three task forces, a blue-ribbon panel, numerous consultants and repeated audits by the GAO have warned that the multi-billion dollar and oil and gas program was headed for severe problems. Yet Interior Department and BIA officials have ignored the warnings and advice.

"BIA's idea of a hearing is to survive, not to sit down and reason to solve a problem together," said Rep. Mike Synar, D-Okla., head of the House Government Operations Committee.

"They only want to survive."

MMS recovering less than 8 percent Indian royalty underpayments. . .

The federal studies and congressional testimony reveal the Minerals Management Service is recovering less than 8 percent of all royalty underpayments for oil and gas on Indians and federal lands.

The minerals agency, in the past four years, has reported recovering $360 million in underpayments from oil companies. In a recent interview, Bettenberg said this was the only accurate figure regarding the amount lost through underpayments for oil and gas taken from federal and Indians lands.

But congressional investigators in a 1986 report estimated that federal agencies since 1979 had failed to collect $5.8 billion.

Yates said in a recent interview that neither Bettenberg nor other government officials have provided evidence refuting those figures.

Despite this low collection rate, Bettenberg in 1986 testified before Congress that his agency needed no more auditors to manage the oil and gas accounts.

But Congress, in an unusual move, insisted the agency hire 50 more auditors, based on the premise that their work could bring in at least $20 million in recovered underpayments.

In a recent interview with The Republic, Bettenberg cited the hiring of those 50 auditors as one of the recent achievements of his agency. He did not say Yates' panel forced his agency to hire them.

Bettenberg acknowledged that until 1984, the government worked primarily with oil companies regarding the oil and gas program.

"There was nobody who was tasked with the job of dealing with recipients (Indians). Nobody. Just nobody." he said.

Although federal officials in the past three years have developed an advocacy system for Indian landowners, it, for the

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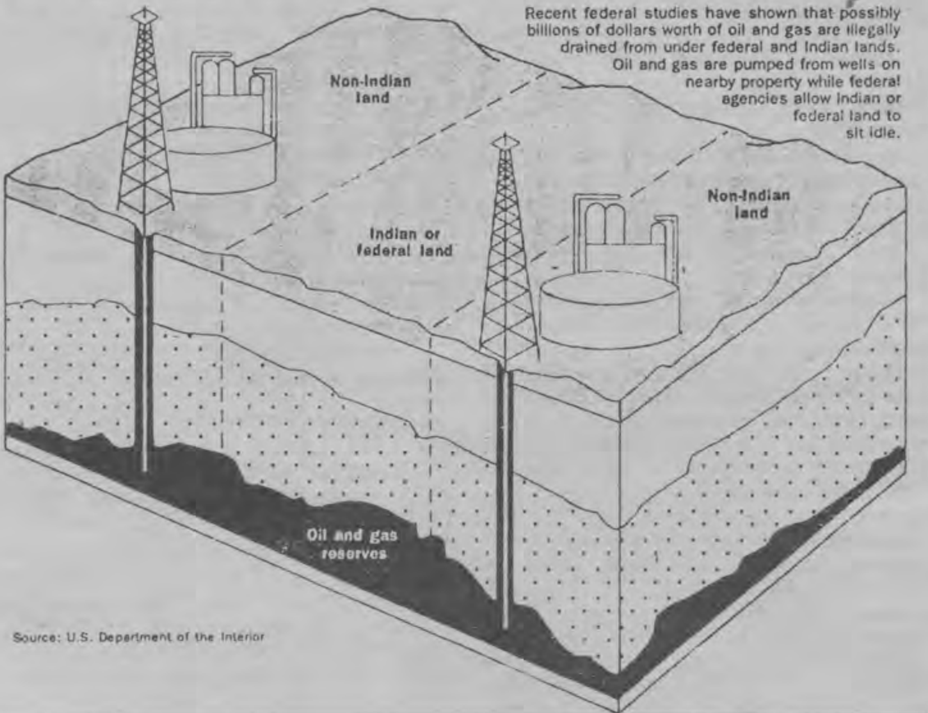
How oil and gas are drained from Indian and federal land-



Recent federal studies have shown that possibly billions of dollars worth of oil and gas are illegally drained from under federal and Indian lands. Oil and gas are pumped from wells on nearby property while federal agencies allow Indian or federal land to sit idle.

Source: U.S. Department of the Interior

most part, has failed to improve the system.

Bettenberg concedes the oil and gas royalty program does not merit confidence today. But he predicts that "substantial compliance," is "about two years away."

Indian leaders and many in Congress doubt this assessment.

When the BIA assumed trust responsibility for Indians and Indian lands a century ago, mineral rights were not relevant issues.

However, with the discovery of oil and gas and the boom in use of them as fuel for homes and autos, they became major issues.

The Interior Department assigned responsibility for management of the oil and gas on federal lands to a number of its agencies. In effect, no one was in control.

Each of the agencies, such as the U.S. Geological Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the BIA, developed its own agendas.

This disjointed system allowed companies to pump billions of dollars in oil from Indian and federal lands without paying for it or paying less than what the oil was worth. Others just drove trucks up to Indian-owned wells and stole oil and gas.

The system was so bad that by 1981, it had practically collasped.

In fact, Bettenberg wrote in a 1981 memo to then-Secretary of Interior James Watt:

"Essentially, what we have here is a bankrupt organization, and like all bankrupt organizations, it should be placed in receivership."

Watt then placed the management of federal and Indian oil and gas leases under the stewardship of a board, similar to actions taken to control a bankrupt company.

From this bankrupt organization came the Minerals Management Service, which in 1983 took over the responsibilites of collecting oil and gas royalties.

The minerals agency struggled with an $82 million VAX computer system that could not handle data properly or produce timely accounting for oil and gas transactions. The VAX problems set the entire minerals-management program back at least two years, officials agree.

There were other problems.

BIA and minerals-service officials argued and fought over the resource-management problems. The feud deteriorated to the point where officials of the two agencies were barely speaking to each other.

While officials of the agencies bickered, Indians who owned mineral rights were starving and losing their homes and cars because they could not get their money.

The minerals service has set up a royalty-processing center in Lakewood, Colo. It has had three directors in the past four years.

The agency quickly found it could not comply with the 1981 Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act. Instead of requiring companies to pay as they produced, the minerals service instructed them to "estimate" payments for oil and gas production on federal and Indian lands.

This estimate in necessary because the BIA and the minerals agency have no accurate way of measuring the oil and gas production.

Although the Interior Department is required to inspect each of the wells once year, federal officials conceded that with the dwindling number of inspectors,it would be physically impossible to complete that mandate even if the inspectors worked 24 hours a day.

The BIA and the minerals agency in 1985 developed a reporting form that was supposed to give Indians a monthly accounting of production of oil and gas for their lands. But the form is so complicated that it takes an accountant to figure it out.

"My first comment when I saw it, a real one, was, 'Hey, these people aren't accountants,'" Bettenberg said.

The minerals service and the BIA are pinning their hopes of resolving the multibillion-dollar oil and gas crisis on a new $32 million computer system that orignally was scheduled to go on line last year but was rescheduled to begin operation in August.

The computer did not make the new deadline. The Interior Department has fined its manufacturer, Martin Marietta Corp., $979,498 because the system did not begin operations on schedule. Martin Marietta contends it is late because the oil and gas records are in such bad shape that the company can make no sense of them.

Interior officials tried to change leasing regulations. . .giving uncommon advantage to oil companies-

Interior officials recently angered lawmakers by trying to quietly change leasing regulations on federal and Indian lands. Proposed leases would give uncommon advantages to oil companies. The new regulations were supposed to have taken effect Sept. 23, but because they had been introduced so quietly, Congress delayed their implementations until at least Oct. 24.

The failures of the federal oil and gas programs have led to a growing concern in Washington and with Indians nationwide that no one in the Department of Interior really wants a workable system.

Synar feels the problems result from a lack of commitment on the part of the BIA and the Minerals Management Service. The Oklahoma congressman said officials and employees of the agencies are more intent on protecting their jobs than on helping Indians.

"They spend more time trying to justify their existence and less time trying to carry out the intent of Congress" by using their resources to solve problems, Synar said.

He said the Reagan administration has developed a pro-producer stand and is doing little to protect the interest and rights of Indian land royalty owners.

Rep. Yates echoed Synar's allegations that department officials are siding with oil companies.

She said that Bettenberg has "taken sides with the oil and gas companies, and said so."

The Republic found incidents in which agencies acted against the best interest of Indians.

Those incidents included three U.S. District Court cases in which federal judges ruled that the Interior Department and the BIA blatantly supported oil producers at the expense of Indians.

In 1984, the U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver found that the department had "breached its fiduciary duty" by favoring oil companies in the valuation of oil and gas pumped from the Jicuarilla Apache Tribe's lands.

Although the appellate court overturned judgments in favor of the tribe, it did not change its decision that the interior secretary violated his trust duties.

Federal Judges said federal officials failed to protect Indians from companies draining oil from under Indian lands. . .

The judges said federal officials had failed to lease the land at good rates and failed to protect the Indians from companies that were draining oil from under their land.

In another case from Oklahoma, the same appellate court ruled in 1986 that BIA and interior officials had broken the law and conceded the Indians' rights by allowing non-Indians to share in oils and gas revenues from Indian lands.

A federal report shows that in 1985, the BIA was trying to force Indians to repay money to oil companies, claiming overpayments by the producer. But a congressional investigation found that the companies were the ones that owed.

In one instance, the BIA was trying to extract a $104 payment from an Indian lessor for an oil company. But the investigation found that the company instead owed the Indian more than $51,000.

In Oklahoma, the BIA and the minerals service were trying to collect $80,000 for an oil company from a 68-year-old Indian woman. An independent audit revealed the firm actually owed her $64,000.

Indians claim the BIA also acts to the detriment of entire tribes.

In January of 1986, BIA chief Swimmer intervened in behalf of an oil company that was negotiating with the Shoshones and Araphos of Wyoming to make up about $3 million in underpayments for oil and gas. The tribes' bargaining chip was a threatened cancellation of the firm's minerals leases on the reservation.

But Swimmer, a Cherokee Indian, unilaterally dismissed the tribes' cancellation petition, and the operators of the two lucrative leases withdrew their settlement offers, leaving the tribes with nothing to show for their efforts.

Wes Martel, a tribal official at the Fort Washakie, Wyo., reservation, said this was clearly a case in which the BIA and Swimmer sided with the oil companies.

Deal, the attorney for the American Petroleum Institute, acknowledges that oil companies have input to the federal government's oil and gas programs but added, "There's no cave-in to industry."

The control the companies exert over the Interior Department's oil and gas programs is illustrated by The Republic's attempts to gather data for this story. Reporters filed numerous requests for public documents under the Federal Freedom of Information Act.

On Aug.7, the Interior Department responded that it was consulting with oil companies about release of the documents, although it acknowledge, "We have no provisions in our regulations for such consultations."

"If you choose not to provide us with the time to consult with Union Oil Co., you may appeal your request as having been denied," wrote Danny P. Danigan, interior assistant inspector general.

Union Oil is one of 10 companies that Interior Department officials said they had to consult before they could release public documents.

Interior Secretary Donald Hodel refused to discuss the matter with The Republic. He agreed to an interview, then canceled it after learning of the subject matter of the newspaper's investigation.

Swimmer calls Indian's allegations "low rent"

Some Indians allege that Swimmer sides with oil companies because he has a financial interest in minerals ventures.

"I think it is really low-rent" to draw that conclusion, Swimmer said.

His financial-disclosure statement filed in 1985, when he became head of the BIA, shows that he owns stock or interest in three oil-related businesses. He said one of those interests is an oil-mineral trust for his children and that the other two are limited partnerships.

" The total value of my oil interests should be under $20,000," he said.

That figure is supported by his disclosure statements.

But the criticism is not solely about top-echelon BIA officials such as Swimmer. Officials at area or tribal offices have allowed firms to drill oil and gas wells on Indian lands without the benefit of a lease.

Government attorneys backdated leases allowing oil companies to drill without paying lease fees to Indians. . .

In other instances, allegations have surfaced that government attorneys backdated leases for oil companies after they struck oil or gas on Indian-owned lands. This allows them to drill without paying lease fees to Indians.

When serious violations are brought to their attention, Interior Department officials have failed to crack down on oil companies that apparently violate federal laws, federal studies show.

In other cases, they have not pursued legal action when oil producers refused them access to oil and gas records as required by law.

Documents show that oil firms repeatedly have refused to comply with that access-to-records law, seriously hampering the Indians' efforts to get an accurate accounting of the money owed them.

For example, when major producers Arco and Chevron refused to let Interior Department officials review their records of production from federal and Indian lands, government officials took no action other than to report they were studying "appropriate strategy" to deal with the apparent violation.

Members of Congress and their staff

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Fraud in Indian Country Continued. . .

members interviewed by The Republic expressed deepening concern over the growing cozy relationship between the Interior Department, the minerals service and the BIA and the oil and gas companies they are supposed to regulate.

For example, Interior officials in 1986 decided to let Conoco, a major oil company, write valuation guidelines for oil and gas production.

Minerals Management Service Officials acknowledged that the Conoco proposals would have given oil companies a $600 million windfall at the expense of Indian landowners and taxpayers. The minerals agency's royalty-advisory committee rejected the Conoco plan, but a new plan being drafted by the agency will have about the same effect, critics allege.

Dissatisfied Indians are going to court to force the government to do its job.

About 17,000 Navajos filed a lawsuit in 1984 in U.S. District Court in Albuquerque, N.M.

Albuquerque attorney Al Taradash, who represents the Indians, said that a judge recently ordered the BIA and the minerals service to make timely royalty payments. But the system is so bad there are serious questions as to whether the agencies can comply, he said.

In 1985, a lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Oklahoma by about 7,000 Indians. Moore, an attorney for the Native American Rights Fund in Boulder, Colo., is co-counsel in that case.

Like Taradash, Moore doubts the government's ability to comply with any court order he can win.

"Our concern with the system is that as it is designed, it has no way to ensure the accuracy of payments," Moore said.

"It is a system that totally relies on the good faith and trust of the producers.

"Indians have about run out of belief in this good faith and trust. The potential for fraud in this system is phenomenal."

Agencies let oil-rich Indians wallow in poverty. . .

Minerals unit, BIA bungling leases and funds. . .

Years ago, Frances Begay's mother assured her that she and her sisters and brothers would never suffer from the abject poverty that surrounded them on the Navajo Indian Reservation, because their family owned rights to producing oil and gas wells.

But that promise has been broken by the bungling of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other federal agencies.

Begay and her husband, who are Navajo ranchers, have had to sell most of their sheep and cows just to keep their children in school. Her brothers and sisters had their pickups and cars repossessed because they could not make payments. To pay debts, one sister pawned all of her valuable Indian jewelry.

Meanwhile, near Anadarko, Okla., 600 miles to the east of Begay's home in Arizona, Vietnam War veteran Roger Bosin, a Kiowa-Comanche, has lost his home and a bank is about to repossess his pickup.

Like the Begays, he owns a share of a producing gas well. Also, like them, he cannot get money owed him by the BIA for the oil and gas pumped off his land.

"I'm trying to find out what happened to my money, and the BIA won't tell me anything." Bosin said.

"But the BIA has always taken the side of the oil companies and said, "To hell with Indians.'"

In Arizona, the response Begay got from officials was similiar.

When she approached them in Window Rock to find out why she and other members of her family were not getting paid, BIA officials refused to help and told her, "You should have saved your money."

Begay's and Bosin's stories are not unusual. They are among thousands of Indians who are suffering because of BIA and the Minerals Management Service, another Interior Department agency, are improperly handling Indian royalty accounts.

The BIA is the trustee for Indian lands and is supposed to protect the best interest of tribes and individual Indians in such matters as royalty payments.

Almost without fail, it doesn't.

The end result has been personal and financial hardship for numerous Indian families. Instead of being independent, many are on welfare rolls, and some even rummage through garbage cans looking for morsels of food while major oil companies pump oil off their land.

The BIA and the minerals agency have allowed oil companies to pump billions of dollars worth of oil from Indian lands with little or no accountability by letting companies operate on an "honor system."

The firms are allowed to estimate the amounts they owe the government for the oil and gas because federal agencies cannot accurately monitor oil production from Indian and federal lands. The oil companies are supposed to be audited every six years under this arrangement.

Indians across the nation have found themselves virtually helpless because the BIA, as trustee for their oil and gas leases, has refused in most cases to represent their interests.

Instead, the BIA and the Minerals Management Service allow major oil companies to indirectly control Indian royalty accounts by depositing money or claiming over-payments against the Indian's accounts as they see fit.

The minerals agency collects the royalty payments, and the BIA distributes the funds to Indians.

Numerous federal audits, investigations and congressional hearings have established that the two agencies are allowing oil producers to literally steal hundreds of millions or even billions of dollars of oil and gas from federal and Indian lands.

Beatrice Saupitty, a 68-year-old Comanche widow from Cache, Okla., is a prime example of the problem.

She is part owner of a producing gas well in the Anadarko Basin. But recently, the BIA stopped the royalty payments that were her primary source of income.

BIA officials never notified her that payments were stopped. So she went to the BIA office seeking answers and was floored when agency officials in Anadarko told her that an oil company claimed $80,000 in overcharges against her account.

Although the BIA neither attempted to verify that charge nor asked the Minerals Management Service to audit the account, agency officials depended on the honor system and without question charged Saupitty's account.

Saupitty said it would take years to pay off that account. And she was upset that BIA officials sided with the oil company and told her she must prove that the company's overcharge was wrong before she could get any money.

Unlike many Indians, Saupitty had saved enough to hire an attorney. That attorney hired an oil and gas auditor, who found that the oil company and the BIA were not due the $80,000. Instead, they had failed to pay Saupitty for an estimated $64,000 in oil and gas taken from her land.

Even when presented with those documented findings, the BIA would not pay Saupitty. Today, she is still trying to collect the money while the BIA, the agency charged with the trust responsibility over her land, effectively sides with the oil producer against her.

In effect, the BIA rejects her documented claim and accepts the word of the oil company, which based its overpayment charges on "estimated" production from her land.

In Arizona, Begay said she and her two brothers and two sisters have been unable to determine why their royalty payments stopped. When they received no royalty checks for three months, the BIA could not tell them why.

They went to the well, located in New Mexico, and found the oil producer had abandoned the site.

They notified the BIA, and eventually a new producer began taking oil from their land. Now they receive small checks each month, accompanied by a complex accounting form they can't understand.

In fact, the forms that report oil production to Indians are so complex that even the head of the Minerals Management Service, William C. Bettenberg, admits he can't make sense of them.

Begay and other family members have joined about 17,000 other Navajo oil lessors who have filed suit against the Department of Interior, seeking to make its agencies, the BIA and the minerals agency, properly account for production. The lawsuit also seeks to force the federal government to pay promptly.

But even the most optimistic say the agencies' ability to expedite payment is poor, primarily because of an archaic accounting system that, according to a recent congressional report, makes everything "unnecessarily complex."

The problems also are compounded by a computer system that has failed miserably and a paralyzing lack of communication between the minerals agency and the BIA.

A similar lawsuit has been filed against the Interior Department by about 7,000 Oklahoma Indians representing several tribes.

In addition to filing lawsuits, Indian lessors are banding together to fight the federal government.

Navajos who feel the U.S. government is allowing oil companies to steal millions of dollars worth of oil from them have formed the Shii Shi Keyah Association, based in Bloomfiled, N.M.

In Oklahoma, Indians have formed the Oklahoma Indian Mineral Owners Association, a boot-strap operation headed by a fiery 66-year-old Wichita Indian great-grandmother, Berdena Holder.

Although Holder has had one home repossessed because she was unable to meet payments due to what she says were BIA and Minerals Management Service foul-ups, she successfully has helped collect between $500,000 and $1 million for Indian royalty owners who were shortchanged.

"Whatever the oil company reports is gospel to the BIA. They never seem to question them," Holder said, referring to the BIA's honor system.

"They're ripping us off. When I say they, I don't know for sure if it is the oil companies, the BIA, MMS (Minerals Management Service), Treasury or who.

"We have to keep fighting," Holder said emphatically.

"If we don't, we know our checks will stop. It's the biggest damn mess you ever saw."

Holder, who has 10 children, 26 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren, said she became involved in the fight for Indian royalties only because the BIA would not.

"Back in '83, when all of this started,we were so pathetic," she said, referring to the birth of the Indian royalty association.

"There were people without groceries, losing cars and losing homes. I would go home and cry. There was nowhere to turn."

She represents people like Thomas Wahnee, a 75-year-old Comanche who claims the BIA has failed to pay $41,000 that an oil company owes him.

Wahnee, who lives in a run-down house in Fletcher, Okla., knows what he would do if the BIA would release his money.

"I'd pay my bills," he said. "I'd sleep good then."

Holder challenges the BIA and the minerals agency almost daily, and in more cases than not, she wins. She has become a thorn in the side of the bureaucrats.

Pat Ragsdale, former BIA area director in Anadarko, Okla., is a frequent target of Holder's barbs and challenges.

"She heads my fan club," Ragsdale joked.

Then, in a seemingly studied choice of words, he added, "Berdena Holder has focused on oil and gas management by the federal government. She represents well her Indians' views as to the effectiveness of that federal government's management. She has been very critical of that responsibility, and she represents a number of Indians who share their problems, both real and perceived, with her.

"She and I both agree that there is a lot of improvement to be made. But she and I may differ as to our diligence in the Anadarko area."

Second in a series:

Indian's oil, identity stolen-

Drillers, lawyers for U.S. certify black imposter

Austin Walker was a homeless, jobless and destitute Creek-Cherokee Indian who should have been a millionaire.

But he was denied the money due him because government attorneys representing the Bureau of Indian Affairs failed-criminally, some claim-to represent him.

The government lawyers joined with an oil company to pass off a black man, also named Austin Walker, as a Creek-Cherokee Indian. They then allowed the man, identified as a "full-blood Negro," to sign an oil and gas lease on the Indian Walker's allotment land in Creek County, court records show.

And those same government attorneys stood by as more than $1 million worth of oil and gas was pumped from the Indian's allotment, then opposed Walker in court when he fought for the money that was due him.

Walker's problems paint a striking story that shows why Indians nationwide are losing confidence in government lawyers acting on their behalf. That trust is being eroded by what some claim is growing legal malpractice on the part of federal attorneys assigned to represent Indian interests.

Walker is by no means an isolated example, as discovered by The Arizona Republic.

His case-along with another filed by the heirs of Susie Chuwee Blackwood in Oklahoma and a third by a group of Indians against Sanguine Ltd., an Oklahoma oil company-are graphic examples of how some government attorneys and BIA officials seemingly work against the best interest of Indians, the very people they are sworn to represent.

In the Walker incident, government attorneys participated in a lease-fraud case that has left even veteran Oklahoma jurists and oilmen shaking their heads.

In the Blackwood episode, which, like the Walker case, was handled by the

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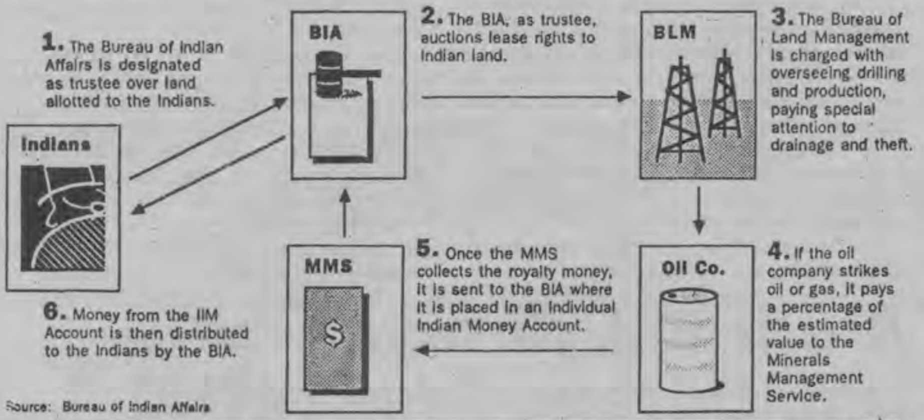
Management of Indian oil and gas resources-

Oil-lease transactions are usually simple: The oil company pays the landowner a fee in exchange for the right to drill for oil and natural gas. Management of oil and gas resources on Indian lands, however, is extremely complex:


1. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is designated as trustee over land allotted to the Indians.
BIA
2. The BIA, as trustee, auctions lease rights to Indian land.
BLM
3. The Bureau of Land Management is charged with overseeing drilling and production, paying special attention to drainage and theft.
Indians
MMS
$
5. Once the MMS collects the royalty money, it is sent to the BIA where it is placed in an Individual Indian Money Account.
Oil Co.
4. If the oil company strikes oil or gas, it pays a percentage of the estimated value to the Minerals Management Service.
6. Money from the IIM Account is then distributed to the Indians by the BIA.

Source: Bureau of Indian Affairs

Indian identity stolen

Continued. . .

Interior Department's regional solicitor in Tulsa, federal attorneys tried to force Indians to sign an oil and gas lease agreement that clearly was not in their best interest.

Walker's battle with the government to claim his money began in early 1983, when a small oil producer, Bristow Resources Inc., tried to lease his Indian allotment land in an oil-rich area southwest of Tulsa.

The Austin Walker who owns the land lives quietly in Black Gum, about 80 miles from the allotment area. BIA officials said they could not locate Walker, but Bristow Resources found a black man with the same name in Sapulpa.

With attorneys from the Interior Department's regional solicitor's office looking on a state district judge on Feb. 10, 1983, certified the black man as a 7/8 Creek-Cherokee Indian.

The 66-year-old imposter said no one ever questioned his race when they were certifying him an Indian.

Once certified, the Bristow company paid him $4,000 to lease the land.

Using that bogus lease, the oil company drilled on the Walker land-and hit pay dirt, pumping $1.3 million worth of oil and gas.

Phil Elias, owner of the oil company, could not be reached for comment, but the firm's accountant, Ralph Osborne, said Bristow Resources would make no comment since the Walker case was still in litigation.

Bristow Resources is operated out of the same office as Phil's Used Cars in Bristow.

In September 1983, Walker, the Indian went to the BIA office in Muskogee to collect about $80 he received annually for leasing his Creek County property to a livestock producer-the same rich, oil-producing land then being drained by Bristow Resources.

But there was no money in Walker's account. He found that Rex Herren of the Interior Department's regional solicitor's office had canceled the livestock grazing lease.

Walker called the office, and Herren, who had represented the BIA when the black man was falsely certified as an Indian, told him to come to Tulsa at once.

Walker, 46, had no money and no car, so he hitchhicked to Tulsa. There, he met with Herren and produced documents showing he was both Indian and the actual owner of the land, something the black man later said he was never asked to do.

The appearance of the Indian Austin Walker touched off major chaos and a flurry of frantic phone calls.

Herron called the state judge who had certified the black man as an Indian. The judge telephoned attorneys for Bristow Resources. Those attorneys called Herron repeatedly.

During those phone calls, the Bristow firm's attorneys told Herren about three producing oil wells, court records show. The company was put in the position of having major oil wells on land to which it had no legal rights. Herren told Bristow's attorneys where to reach the Indian Walker.

Bristow sent Veta Germane, a company employee, to persuade Walker to sign a legal lease. When Germane found Walker, the Indian had just completed an auto-mechanics course at a trade school in Okmulgee. He had no home, no money and, according to court records, was living out of his cousin's car.

Germane gave Walker $500. Walker said in an interview with The Arizona Republic that it was clear that the money obligated him to accept a lease. He said he called Herren, who told him he could cash the check.

Germane then told Walker that Bristow Resources would pay him $4,000 for the oil and gas rights on his land, a sum that turned out to be a fraction of the land's worth. Walker also said he wasn't told that oil already had been pumped from his land by the company.

"I didn't know a thing about the oil and gas, and at that time, I was broke, so $4,000 sounded like all the money in the world to me," Walker told The Republic.

"So I said for sure that I'd sign it."

In addition to Germane, Bristow Resources hired as a consultant Harold Schultz, who recently had resigned as a government attorney in the Tulsa solicitor's office.

Court records show Schultz agreed to represent Walker at a state District Court hearing, which is necessary to validate Indian oil and gas lease in Oklahoma.

Herren testified in court he "relied on Schultz (who was working for the oil company) to represent Austin Walker rather than assume the duties himself" as solicitor.

This is unusual, because the solicitor's office is charged with representing Indians in such matters.

On Oct, 14, 1983, Herren met with state District Judge Streeter Speakman, who earlier had certifed the black man as an Indian. At that time, court records show, Herren told the judge about the oil production on Walker's land.

Instead of being advised by the solicitor's office at the lease hearing, Walker in the end was represented not by Schultz but by another Bristow Resources attorney.

U.S. District Court Judge H. Dale Cook wrote this year in a lawsuit brought by Walker against the United States that the government's allowing an oil-company lawyer to represent Walker in the lease hearing amounted to "a complete breakdown in the fundamental principals of legal representation."

"Bristow Resources and Austin Walker were in an adversarial position, in that Walker would expect to receive the highest price possible for a lease," Cook said.

He didn't.

On a lease worth at least hundreds of thousands of dollars, Walker received only $4,000, and the federal lawyers who were supposed to represent him approved the deal.

Court records show Herren actually urged Walker to sign the lease with Bristow Resources, telling him $4,000 was a "fair price."

During the lease hearing in state court, the federal judge later noted, Walker was the only person in the courtroom who still did not know there were producing oil wells on his land.

There were other irregularities.

Normally, Indian lease hearings in Oklahoma courts are held on the same day of each month so oil-company representatives can be present to bid competitively. But in Walker's case, the state judge set an "accelerated hearing date."

Cook, the federal judge, called the state court actions "fatally flawed."

And he rebuked the BIA attorneys who were supposed to represent Walker.

"There is no justification for the Department of Interior to permit this type of procedural masquerade, wherein the government's trial attorneys know firsthand that the private attorneys filing these petitions (for Walker) are bought and paid for by the Indian's adversary," Cook found.

He blasted the federal attorneys for "negligence and a breach of their statutory duty to represent the best interests of their client-Indians with the...tribes who are titleholders on restricted Indian land."

Walker said he took the $4,000 after the lease hearing in state court and "felt like a King."

He then went to Bristow's office and signed a document he thought was part of the settlement agreement. In essence, it was a legal document releasing about $300,000 in accumulated royalty fees.

But Walker's relatives who worked for the BIA in Muskogee told him soon after he accepted the $4,000 that something was wrong the Bristow deal. Walker ended up retaining John D. "Rocky" Boydston, a Tulsa attorney. And that led to the federal suit before Judge Cook.

Boydston said he immediately realized the deal was a sham and Walker had been the victim of a million-dollar fraud.

At first, he tried to get Interior Department and BIA officials to help Walker recover his money. They refused.

In a July 10, 1985, letter to Justin P. Patterson, assistant solicitor for the Interior Department in Washington, Boydston wrote:

"You obviously don't know much about Indian law, legal ethics or oil and gas. I assume from your response that you also don't know about or care about the problems Indians have with oil companies and government bureaucracy."

Boydston further warned, "What you have just brushed aside is the making of a major scandal, for which you will bear a major responsibility in exposing to public light."

But the government wouldn't budge. Instead of helping Walker, it became his legal adversary,

Boydston requested a criminal investigation, but the U.S. attorney's office in Tulsa refused to act.

He then filed suit against the government on Walker's behalf in federal court at Tulsa.

In a July Interior Department inspector general's report, investigators noted that after Walker filed the lawsuit, "the Walker file was discovered to be missing" from the Tulsa regional solicitors office.

The file was found two weeks later, but critical notes related to the case were missing and have never been found.

During the trial, government attorneys attacked Walker. They presented as witnesses three government appraisers who testified that the $4,000 price paid for the lease on the producing oil and gas land was a fair arrangement.

The federal judge, obviously angered by their version, called their testimony "incredible, unworthy of belief and not regarded by this court as reasonable."

On March 19, Cook awarded Walker $685,368.

Walker still has not collected the money, and the government has filed a notice of appeal.

Herren refused to be interviewed when contacted by The Republic, saying only, "I think, obviously, an error was made."

He would not say who he felt made the error.

BIA Director Ross Swimmer admitted officials from his agency and the solicitor's office were "guilty of ormision" in the Walker case.

"I'm not sure they've determined there's any activity where anybody got any money out of the deal," Swimmer said.

"I think it was a royal screw-up, and I think if you track it down from Day 1, that all the controls that were in place failed."

Soon after Cook's ruling, the head of the Tulsa solicitor's office retired, and Herren resigned.

Herren's actions in the case were recently investigated by the interior inspector general's office.

Investigators concluded Herren had acted improperly in the case but found no criminal intent. They added that he had violated regulations by failing to disclose the interest he held in oil and gas wells in Oklahoma. But they allowed him to amend his disclosure statement.

Roger Hilfiger, U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Oklahoma, based in Muskogee, considered prosecuting Herren on charges of making false statements, criminal conflict of interest and perjury.

But, the investigators said, "Hilifiger does not feel there was any criminal intent in this case by Rex E. Herren."

Ironically, Hilifger was representing Herren in the civil suit filed by Walker at the same time this decision not to prosecute was reached.

Additionally, the investigators reviewed Herren's actions in a case involving the heirs of Susie Chuwee Blackwood, also of Oklahoma.

As with the Walker case, they concluded he had acted improperly but without criminal intent.

In that case, Herren and the solicitor's office wanted Blackwood's heirs to sign a lease agreement for mineral rights on their land against the advice of BIA realty specialist Harold Wade of Tahlequah.

Wade told them the lease was not in their best interest because they apparently were owed money for previous lease royalties that had accumulated since 1969.

When Wade refused to go along with the lease, he was ordered by the solicitor's office and officials of the Muskogee BIA area office to get the lease signed. Wade refused and was disciplined for that refusal.

Herren then took an Indian BIA employee with him and went to the family and persuaded them to sign the lease.

Wade said he refused to have the lease signed because records showed that an oil company had been producing oil and gas from the property since 1957. But, he said, there was no record of the Blackwood heir's ever signing a lease or receiving royalty payments.

In another case in Oklahoma, a U.S. District Court judge allowed a group of Indian landowners to intervene in a lawsuit against the BIA by Sanguine Ltd., and oil-production company that was attempting to force the federal agency to pool oil revenues of Indians and non-Indians.

State law in Oklahoma allows pooling of revenues under a procedure called "communitization."

A favorable decision would have allowed non-Indians to share Indian royalties, the Indians claim.

The Indians successfully argued the Anadarko area BIA director, at that time

(continued on next page)

Fraud in Indian Country Continued. . . .

Stanley Speaks, had not represented their best interest in dealings with Sanguine. Speakes is now area director for the BIA in Portland, Ore.

A federal appeals court found, "Counsel for government defendants agreed the area (BIA) director's actions were unlawful."

The incidents in Oklahoma apparently are not isolated.

Indian leaders, BIA employees and even a former president agree the system is one ripe for corruption.

Then-President Nixon recognized the danger of federal lawyers' representing both Indians and the government as early as 1970.

Nixon said those legal battles often place the government "with an inherent conflict of interest."

Even when BLM field offices try to pursue the growing drainage problem, they get confusing guidance from the agency's leaders in Washington.

For example, agency field investigators recently dropped investigations of seven "fraudulent" drainage cases in New Mexico and Wyoming because they were "uncertain about how to pursue this type of case," the audit found.

Three of these cases were worth $1 million each to Indians and the government.

The program to prevent fraudulent drainage from oil and gas reserves located under federal and Indian land is a relatively new one.

The BLM got the program in April 1983 during a reorganization of the Interior Department's minerals-management program.

Since then, the auditors reported, more than 60 percent of the BLM's drainage professionals have left the program. As a result, costly mistakes have occurred.

The audit noted that one inexperienced petroleum engineer "made errors on two economic analysis."

The end result was that he allowed an oil company to walk away with 236,000 barrels of oil worth about $6 million.

They're draining him dry. . .

Indian not given penny as drillers siphon oil

The Key Points

1. The government has stood idly by as oil companies unlawfully siphoned an estimated $5.7 billion worth of oil and gas from beneath federal and Indian lands.

2. The problem is so large, and so ignored, that the Bureau of Land Management has a 53-year backlog of investigations.

3.Recent audits show the government could recover much of its losses by adding inspectors, but officials refuse to do so.

Press Primeaux's home sits on a wealth of oil and gas reserves.

From his front door, he watches large oil rigs with their praying-mantislike heads sucking oil day and night from thousands of feet beneath his 120 acres.

But the frustrated, full-blooded Ponca Indian has not received one cent from the oil and gas being drained from under his property.

While federal agencies have snarled Primeaux's land in a knot of bureaucratic red tape, oil companies have drilled ten producing wells on adjacent non-Indian land and have pumped more than $2 million worth of oil and gas from them. Part of that came from under Primeaux's land.

In his case, and thousands of others around the country, federal agencies are allowing oil companies to take oil and gas from beneath Indian and federal land without paying royalties on it.

Many of these cases constitute outright theft or fraud, stemming from a practice called drainage. It occures when several plots of land sit atop a single pool of oil or gas and one or more property owners take a disproportionate share.

The Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management, which is supposed to monitor drainage nationwide, has grossly failed to correct the problem. An analysis of a recent federal audit, obtained by the *Arizona Republic* under the Freedom of Information Act, shows this misfeasance has deprived Indians and the government of royalties from possibly $5.7 million in oil.

The problem is so acute that the BLM has more than 8,400 drainage cases on Indian and federal lands it has not investigated and only 16 people nationwide assigned to the job. With that caseload and staffing, federal auditors calculated it would take the agency 53 years just to clear its current backlog.

Marlyn Jones, a BLM specialist in Denver who is studying the government's policy on the drainage problem, acknowledged, "It is difficult to pinpoint losses.

"From one perspective, things look pretty bleak. It's evident the problem needs more attention, and the bureau is giving it more attention."

Geologists have told Primeaux that his land sits atop a large pool of oil and gas. The Ponca, who is disabled from a hand and leg amputation and must undergo kidney dialysis as a result of chronic diabetes, is frustrated because federal officials hold his oil-rich land in trust and will not lease it.

BIA officials contended in a recent letter to Primeaux that the land already is leased, although documents clearly show a lease on the land expired a year ago.

When he tried to get the BIA to take action, Primeaux claims agency officials tried to extort $900 from him just for putting his land on a lease list. He refused and reported the incident to the Interior Department's office of inspector general, which is investigating those allegations.

Ray Springwater, a realty officer at the Pawnee agency who supposedly asked Primeaux for the money, denied any wrongdoing.

He acknowledged telling Primeaux that he may have to pay that much but said the money was not for a bribe but was to cover advertising and lease sale costs in case no firm wanted the oil rights.

"I told him if he didn't get bids, he would have to pay for that sale," Springwater, a full-blooded Cherokee said.

Under federal law, the BIA and the Bureau of Land Management are supposed to ensure that Primeaux is paid for the oil that is siphoned from under his land.

"If they would pay us for the oil it would sure help us over the hump financially," Primeaux said.

"I've made several calls to the BLM complaining about drainage, but they refused to make an on-site inspection. How they say there's no such drainage if they don't come here and look?"

"I dont' think these people are qualified."

BLM officials argue that there's no drainage on Primeaux's land. However, Marvin Blubaugh, a veteran Ponca City oilman disagrees.

"They're draining him dry," Blubaugh said.

Similar stories abound throughout the nation, auditors say. They found cases in which a company holding a lease on Indian or federal land also has oil and gas leases on adjacent property.

In many cases the lease holder drills on the adjoining land because royalties paid to the Indians and the federal government usually are higher since leases on those lands are auctioned to the highest bidder.

Even if the BLM wanted to take immediate action to collect the billions that are literally being stolen from the government and the Indians, auditors indicated that the agency is so disorganized and incompetent it probably could not.

The inspector general's audit found that none of the BLM's 15 area offices had an adequate program to deal with this costly drainage rip-off. The auditors also said the BLM's record-keeping systems are in disarray.

Much of this chaos came about auditors said, because BLM officials assigned to this program are incompetent or unqualified.

Blunt BIA director runs into bureaucratic wall. . .

> *"(Ross) Swimmer has sought to silence potential opposition . . .Swimmer has become the 'Ollie' North of Indian Affairs."*
>
> *Suzan Shown Harjo, executive director*
> *National Congress of American Indians*

Ross Swimmer has practically drowned in the waves of controversy he has caused while leading the Bureau of Indian Affairs since 1985.

The Reagan appointee has tried to take the "Indian" out of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, but he is feeling the stings of a bureaucratic hornet's nest as angry lawmakers and Indians have resisted his proposals and methods.

Swimmer has generated the controversy by trying to get the government out of the Indian business and to replace federal programs with those operated by privately operated firms.

It is perhaps ironic that Swimmer himself is an Indian, a former Cherokee Chief.

"This man has no sense of Indianness", said LaDonna Harris of Americans for Indian Opportunity, a fellow Oklahoman.

"I don't think he believes tribes should exist."

Swimmer's supporters call him a visionary who wants tribes to become more self-sufficient but who lacks the political skills to push through reforms.

His critics say he is a calculating villian bent on destroying Indian programs. Others contend he is a good soldier, dutifully carrying out the president's policies.

"Swimmer has devasted Indian country," said Rep. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, D-Colo., who is half-Indian and a member of the House Interior Committee, which oversees the BIA.

A majority of Indian leaders want his resignation and some members of Congress say it's time he moved on.

"Swimmer has sought to silence potential opposition and adjust attitudes and leadership in Indian country through cash and poverty politics and disinformation," charged Suzanne Shown Harjo, executive director of the National Congress of American Indians. "Ross Swimmer has become the 'Ollie' North of Indian affairs."

The congress of 160 tribes adopted a resolution calling for his ouster, saying, "The Indian and native governments have lost confidence in Mr. Swimmer."

A host of Swimmer initiatives drew outcries from Indians and members of Congress last year.

For instance, he tried to use the BIA's complicated budget process to force tribes and states into taking over the operation of BIA boarding schools. The plan, and five other budget-reform initiatives, was opposed by Indian tribes and ultimately dismissed by Congress.

Another unsuccessful Swimmer initiative was to pool Indian trust funds totaling $1.7 billion in the financially troubled Mellon Bank of Pittsburg. Previously, those funds collected from federal programs and a variety of other sources, were invested in various smaller banks.

Indians on the board overseeing the trust funds protested they were not consulted. Several tribes threatened litigation. Swimmer announced in March he wouldn't pursue the contract with Mellon.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., admires Swimmer's zeal but said he fears his inexperience in federal government has caused him to "get into trouble" with lawmakers.

"You can be effective without breaking rules," McCain said.

Sen. John Melcher was even stronger. "I think Swimmer has done a lot of harm. The whole state of affairs with the BIA is a tragedy," he said.

Swimmer derides congressional interference in Indian programs. "As long as Congress determines Indian policy and they are going to run it the way they want to run it, I am caught in the middle," he said.

"All I can attempt to do is follow the administration's policy of self-determination in getting us out of the way of Indian tribes, doing what we can to help tribes develop some semblance of leadership." But while citing tribal leadership, he is also critical of it. ***Tribal leadership today reflects the BIA," he said.***

All we have out there are 310 little BIAs (Indian tribes) running around the country. You don't have tribal leadership. The incentive aren't there for good tribal leadership."

Few will argue that Ross Swimmer has become the BIA's most controversial director.

Hodel/Swimmer charged by Indians in lawsuit of siding with Fortune 500 oil company. . .

. . .Officials in the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Interior Department abandoned their trust responsibility to Indians and may have acted unlawfully by siding with a Fortune 500 oil company in a dispute over $500 million worth of uranium.

Instead of representing the best interest of poor and uneducated Navajos who owned the mineral rights, the federal officials sided with Mobile Oil Co., which was attempting to lease uranium-rich land at less than market value.

The case led to an Indian lawsuit- Secretary of Interior Donald Hodel and BIA Director Ross Swimmer were named as defendents in an amended complaint- and is a graphic example of a growing and disturbing trend in which government officials turn against the Indians they are paid to represent.

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"Continuing Progress For The Muscogee People"

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Volume 16 Number 11 December 1987 Issue 12 Pages

GARY BRESHEARS, CN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ACCEPTS ON BEHALF OF PRINCIPAL CHIEF CLAUDE COX and the Nation, the Tribal Service Award presented by Lucille Dawson, program specialist for the Administration for Native Americans in Washington, D.C. The award plaque was given by the Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity, Norman, during their 22nd Annual Indian Achievement Week held in Norman November 16-20. Creek Nation was one of four tribes receiving an award during the Tribal Recognition Reception at the Galleria in Oklahoma City.

Creek Nation Receives Tribal Recognition Award from OIO

By Kathryn Bell

The Creek Nation was the recipient of a Tribal Service Award from the Oklahomans for Indian Opportunity (OIO), November 17 in Oklahoma City.

The OIO Achievement Award for 1987 to Creek Nation was accepted by Gary Breshears, executive director of Creek Nation at the Tribal Recognition Reception held 6:00 p.m. at the Galleria in Oklahoma City. This reception was one of the many tribal recognition functions planned during OIO's 22nd Indian Achievement Week.

Lucille Dawson of the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) office in Washington, D.C. presented the award to the Okmulgee-based headquarters of the Muscogee (Creek) Indians for their "innovation in community-based planning and economic development as a model for Creek people and all Indian people."

Breshears, accepting the award on behalf of Principal Chief Claude Cox, Second Chief Perry Beaver and "particularly for the Creek people themselves," responded that it was an honor to accept and "with this award, we will renew our services for economic development for the people."

Commenting for the MNN tribal newspaper, Breshears explained the award represented the tribe's innovative approach to economic development as seen in the Bingo operations and in taking the lead in economic development in the gaming area "and the use of the economic development revenues to provide health and educational services for the people." Breshears also cited the tribe's fight for the sovereign rights of Indian tribes through the court system, as being a factor in the giving of the OIO achievement award.

Three other Oklahoma tribes were presented tribal recognition awards by Ms. Dawson, ANA program specialist - they were: Ponca Tribe, Choctaw Nation, and Absentee Shawnee Tribe.

Earlier in the day, various tribal leaders, led by OIO, toured the Hitachi Plant in Norman, where Gary Breshears was the guest speaker on Indian economic development opportunities - "Why Indian Country is a Good Place to do Business."

During the Reception, Juanita Learned, Cheyenne-Arapho member, made the introductions and remarks for the program which featured entertainment by three Indian students who have participated in the Gifted and Talented program of the Norman-

(See AWARD continued page 3)

Senate Committee Approves $240,000 to Fund BIA Probe

Swimmer thinks BIA should go out of business:

A Senate committee has approved $240,000 to fund a year-long probe into allegations the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs has mismanaged tribal programs and inadequately protected Indian natural resources.

The Senate Rules Committee approved the funding for staff, professional investigators and an operating budget.

Final approval in the Senate is pending. Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Az, is chairman of the special committee.

The special BIA investigation committee was formed last month in response to alleged mis-management of programs as outlined in a series of articles published last month by the Arizona Republic in Phoenix.

Among the complaints were allegations the BIA failed to provide all funds earmarked to tribes and that in some instances it inadequately protected Indian oil and gas interests.

A spokesman for DeConcini said the special committee is expected to be "in full swing" in January.

BIA chief Ross Swimmer isn't fighting the probe. The former Chief of the Cherokees has been an outspoken critic of the agency, pointing to it as one of the major obstacles to Indian progress.

"I look at the BIA as an 18th or 19th century agency dealing with 21st century problems," he said in a recent newspaper article.

"We do an average job. In some areas we do very well. In some we don't do well at all.

"I think the Bureau of Indian Affairs should look at going out of business. I think there should be a planned time when the BIA can reduce the impact that it has had in Indian Country," Swimmer said.

He said the paternalistic attitudes of the federal government have kept the Indian from growing and using his inheritance.

He said a 10-year transition period would allow the tribes to be trained to manage their own affairs and become self-supporting.

"What federal aid has done is perpetuate the isolation of Indians from the rest of society and keep them in poverty," he said.

The Oklahoma Indians are responding with calls for Swimmer's ouster, citing his failure to act on behalf of the tribes.

Chief Cox Appoints Tribal Resource Task Force

By Helen Chalakee

Principal Chief Claude Cox has appointed a tribal task force to look into tribal members need in view of recent investigative news reports in regard to mismanagement and fraudulent acts of Creek leases, mineral rights and royalty reporting/payments.

Congress has appropriated special funding for a full scale, nation-wide investigation into the issues. Chief Cox said he hoped to work closely with the congressional investigative committee. He said, "The fact-finding task force which is comprised of seven tribal members ranging from tribal employees, council representatives and individual members would represent a cross-section of interests."

At congressional hearings held last month, not one Oklahoma tribe testified on behalf of their tribal members. The Chief said, "It is the tribe's responsibility to protect the individual rights of tribal citizens in the same manner as is the federal and state governments responsibility to its citizens." But, he added, "Tribal governments have not actively taken a position on individual rights." He believes, in doing so, the act itself will strengthen the tribe's stand on sovereignty.

Over half of this Country's oil and gas resources are located within this state and for the most part are owned by Indians. Chief stated, "The Tribal Task Force on Management of Indian Resources" will investigate individual accounts of problem areas in dealing with the past and present BIA, MMS and BLM systems and also help to strengthen our own tribal program."

The on-going problem for tribal members is realizing the system has been remiss in handling the accounts, but it was difficult to identify exactly where the problem was. Chief Cox is asking for full cooperation from tribal members in coming forth with areas of concern, such as decoding statements that are sent to the mineral and land owners explaining leases,

(See TASK FORCE continued page 3)

Perry Beaver Elected Creek Second Chief

Incumbent Perry Beaver won the Run-off Election for Second Chief, held December 5, with a 1,450 vote tally to Perry Wheeler's 1,242 votes. In the Run-off election for McIntosh District National Council Representative, Sandy McIntosh was declared the winner with 314 votes to the 226 votes cast for opponent Daniel Barnett.

Muscogee Nation News

The Muscogee Nation News is a monthly publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The offices are located one mile north of Okmulgee, Oklahoma in the Creek Nation Complex. The office of the MNN is located in the Tribal Mound Building at the Complex.

The purpose of this newsletter is to act as the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and to meet any possible need of the Creek Nation that is possible through news coverage.

Subscription rate: The MNN is mailed free to all Creek registered voter households. For all others the rate is $12.00 annum, copyrights pending. Reprint permission is granted with credit to the Muscogee Nation News unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements of the MNN, guest columns and reader's letters reflect the opinions of the individual writer and not necessarily those of the Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, or the Administration of the Creek Nation.

All editorials and letters will become the property of the Muscogee Nation News. Editorials must be signed by the individual author and include a traceable address.

Deadlines for submission is the Friday prior to the first full week of the meeting of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. Any submission must be brought by the MNN office during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays).

Change of address or address corrections requested. For additional copies, call the MNN office at (918) 756-8700, extension 327 for arrangements.Address P.O Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447.

PRINCIPAL CHIEF
Claude A. Cox
SECOND CHIEF
Perry Beaver
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Gary Breshears
COMMUNICATION MANAGER
MNN EDITOR
Helen Chalakee
MNN ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Kathryn Bell
COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST
Gary Robinson
SECRETARY
Anita Freeman
MEDIA TECHNICIANS
Elliot Barnett
Rita Williams

Voter Appreciation Letter From Principal Chief Cox

Dear Creek Tribal Members:

I want to thank each one of you for your support and vote for me for your Principal Chief.

I came through this election a little stronger, a little wiser and a lot more determined than ever before to make the Creek Nation tribal administration as effective and responsive to tribal member's needs as possible.

There are many things I want to prepare the tribe for before I retire and I have already started on them.

First and foremost, I want to ensure our tribal government is accessible to its citizens. Program and staffing reorganization has begun to meet this need. Service is our business here and I will see that is carried out in the most direct manner.

I will be focusing more attention on obtaining economic opportunities for the tribe. Job and educational benefits are the main objectives for seeing our tribal members prosper into the next century.

I invite tribal members with worthwhile projects and suggestions to contact either me or your council representative.

Again, I want to thank you for your vote of confidence in me and I will keep you informed of tribal development.

Lilly and I want to wish each of you a warm and wonderful holiday season!

Principal Chief
Claude A. Cox

Inauguration Ceremony set January 4 for CN tribal officials

Inauguration services to install the Principal Chief, Second Chief and National Council Representatives are scheduled for January 4, 6:00 p.m. at the Mound auditorium at the Creek Tribal Complex in Okmulgee. Everyone is invited to attend.

—NOTICE—

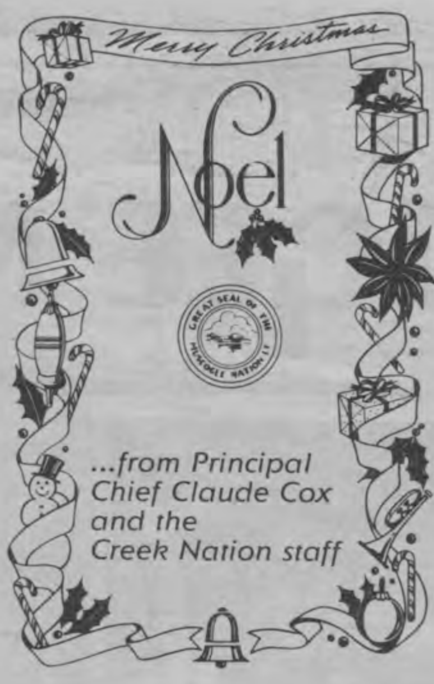
A Reminder to Return Car Seats into CHR's

On October 16, Oklahoma's new tougher infant and child safety seat law goes into effect, which places a $25 fine on drivers who don't have children under the age of six properly buckled up in either a car seat or a seat belt. On a first offense, the fine can be waived with proof of acquiring a car seat by purchase or through a loaner/rental program.

All 50 states now have laws requiring young children to be buckled up. Oklahoma's law, in effect since 1983, provides for primary enforcement and includes passenger cars, pick ups and vans.

Parents with additional questions or loaner programs or proper use of infant and child safety seats may contact the Oklahoma Highway Safety Office, 200 N.E. 21st Street, Oklahoma City, Ok 73105, (405) 521-3314.

All parents who have a car seat loaned to them by the Creek Nation and if you are using it-please return the safety seat so that others may use it-there is no penalty for returning the seat.


Merry Christmas
Noel
...from Principal Chief Claude Cox and the Creek Nation staff

New Year's Eve Party!

Thursday, December 31, 1987
7:00 p.m. til 2:00 a.m.

HOWARD JOHNSON'S MOTEL
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Live Dance Music By:

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HOSTS: Tulsa Area Indians
$25 Couples - $15 Single
Complimentary Snacks/Party Favors
Tickets May Be Purchased At Door

IHCRC Hosts All-Indian Basketball Tournament

The Tulsa All Indian Men and Women's Basketball tournament has set next year's dates for February 5,6,7, 1988. The entry fee is $100.00. The first 20 men's teams and the first 16 women's teams will be accepted.

New prizes!! MVP and All Star Awards. 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, Sportsmanship Award. Plan now to enter this highly ranked tournament.

Camelot Hotel - Headquarters Hotel. For more information call (918) 582-7225.

Sponsored by Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa.

Contestant Applicants Needed For Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma

The Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women and 1987 Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma, Tracie Ann Hart invites you to enter the 1988 Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma contest penny a vote.

Winner will be elected by the amount of penny votes she brings in. Each contestant will be awarded 10% of their individual total votes. The winner will receive a shawl, banner, trophy and crown. She will be a special guest at the Miss Indian Oklahoma Pageant.

The new Jr. Miss Indian Oklahoma will be announced at the Oklahoma Federation of Indian Women's Annual Pow wow on, Saturday, March 26, 1988. For more information and details call, Leslie Barichello, coordinator, (405) 275-4192.

Columbus Day

Columbus Day is a book of poetry by Jimmy Durham, a Cherokee who has been among other things, a delegate of the International Indian Treaty Council to the United Nations. *Columbus Day* features his poems, prose, drawings, and speeches, giving an overview of his place in his society, world society, time and history.

Durham says, "Indian people still speak English as a second language, *even if we no longer speak our own languages.* This is the true meaning of illiteracy in a class society; one is not in control of the language one speaks."

LITTLE INSULTS

Hey, I am drunk, writing this.
Maybe that's not so clever
But I don't apologize by waiting
Until I'm sober.

This guy I know says when Indians
Are drunk then we say what we
Really feel. I feel bad. My teeth
Hurt, and the ones in back are
Going to fall out.

I'm not even forty yet and my teeth
Are falling out. Then my face will be
All sunken in and the women won't
Like me anymore. They hardly don't
Now because my belly sticks way out
From eating too much fry bread when
I was a kid.

Also, I got a real bad back and
Deformed bones. I told everyone
It was a birth defect, which sounds
Respectable, but the doctor said,
Naw, it's just because you had rickets.
Rickets! There ain't nothing special
About rickets.

Used to, I could be with a woman,
Or working on heavy loading job,
And say, well look, I got this birth
Defect with my back. Now I've got
To say, well friends, I'm kind of
Messed up from being poor. Big Deal!

Poverty is so boring, so damn common,
We should think of something else for
Poor people to have.

I guess you are all laughing now,
About this drunk Indian worrying
About his teeth falling out. But I
Remember my father, a grown
Man crying with the pain of his
Teeth. And it ain't funny not to
Have a woman, it's very sad.

CHEYENNE SAYING

"I want my words to be as eloquent as the sound of a rattlesnake" is a Cheyenne saying. The Cheyenne are wise people with wise sayings. Another of their sayings is, *"A nation is not defeated until the hearts of its women lay on the ground."* By incorporating their sayings into the poem I only mean to honor them, and not try to improve upon a perfect statement.

I grew up with coral snakes, and they are special to my people because their colors are three of our important colors and because of thier poison. In our country we have all of the poisonous snakes and poisonous spiders. They make us always be aware of them, and therefore we appreciate them. I don't believe that there is any larger lesson to be learned from that; we generally take things as they are. But surely we can all admire coral snake's decisiveness.

I want my words to be eloquent
As the sound of a rattlesnake.

I want my actions to be as direct
As the strike of a rattlesnake.

I want results as conclusive
As the bite of a beautiful
Red and black coral snake.

Columbus Day can be ordered from West End Press, P.O. Box 27334, Albuquerque, N.M. 87125. Price $4.50.

Council Oak Commemmoration. . .

OBSERVING THE LIGHTING OF THE ETERNAL FLAME UNDER THE HISTORIC CREEK COUNCIL OAK TREE, *is Principal Chief Claude Cox, far right, former Creek Chief Dode McIntosh, Earl Wheeler, Creek Council Member, Ed Frye. newly-elected Creek Council Member, Kenneth Childers, Creek Council Second Speaker and Second Chief Perry Beaver. The Second Annual Council Oak Commemmoration was held November 23 in Tulsa under the historic Council Oak tree located at 18th and Cheyenne Avenue, which was designated as a landmark last year by the City of Tulsa. Sunday's event commemmorated the 151th anniversary of the Muscogee (Creek's) forced removal from ancestral homelands in Georgia and Alabama into Indian Territory on the Trail of Tears. The Council Oak was once the meeting place, called "Loca-poca" by the early Creeks, or "place of turtle" - now present-day Tulsa.*

TASK FORCE

Continued from page 1. . .

production and pay schedules. Chief Cox said that for so long Indian people just accepted whatever was told to them, but times have changed. Nobody can just stop royalty payments because they are questioned. "It's going to be an educational process for the tribe, as well as the tribal members. We need clear information about accounts- not passing the buck from one agency to another. The agencies make the issues so complex, it almost seems to be confusion by design."

The task force will have a giant responsibility before them, Chief said. He expects the committee to conduct hearings, research documents, prepare testimony and lend support to individuals who might want to question their accounts.

Complaints range from problems with leases, IIM accounts, production monitoring, underpayments, overpayments, unfair taxation, direct pay accounts and imposing federal regulation changes. "We suspect there are many of our tribal members who are due windfall profit tax refunds from the oil companies. "With tribal support and the findings of the task force, we hope to get many of these matters resolved," Chief Cox said.

Chief Cox said that for years, everyone has complained about the BIA. Various tribal members has stated that they, or their parents, were encouraged to transfer their IIM accounts to direct pay where they deal directly with the oil companies. Now. when they have problems or questions, they have no recourse except to hire an attorney because the Bureau has released itself of the duty of trust responsibility to that individual. Joe Parker, the Muskogee Area BIA Director, said last year in an interview with the MNN that he wanted to put all Muskogee area on direct pay as a BIA pilot program; yet, direct pay has never been clearly defined by the Bureau. What exactly does it mean and just exactly how much trust status does it exemplify.

Chief Cox feels it is time to quit complaining and doing nothing about it. He says he is ready to help Congress in their attempt to justify accountability in its federal Indian programs.

The Principal Chief will chair the task force. He has appointed George Almerigi and Harvey Gilroy from the National Council, Almerigi is a former tribal attorney and Gilroy has experience in field operations; Rodney Durossett, CN Realty Program Manager; Steve Wilson, CN Community Development Manager; Helen Chalakee, CN Communication Manager; and Eddie Jacobs, tribal member who is familiar with the issues and currently sits on a Mineral Management advisory committee. Jacobs has worked with several U.S. Congressmen in the past few years concerning the mismanagement issues. He has also recovered funds, not only for himself, but assisted other tribal members in their efforts for recovery through requesting audits of their accounts.

Chief Cox said he wants to get the committee going as soon as possible. We don't know exactly what the Bureau plans to do, but from newspaper accounts the Assistant Secretary talks as if he wants the tribes to handle their own affairs as soon as possible. I guess its sort of a "sink or swim" situation.

"We are going to have to rely on historical treaties and agreements with the federal government for tribal interests to remain in protective status," the Chief said. "I am going to work with the task force to investigate every aspect of assuring both individual and tribal government rights. We have a lot of legislation on our side and now is the time to use it to the maximum," he said.

AWARD

Continued from page 1. . .

based American Indian Research and Development Inc. The talented Indian youth performed on musical instruments and gave readings of their original writings.

Iola Hayden, executive director of OIO, explained the importance of the contributions that Indians have made and are continuing to make to the State, and how her organization, with a successful twenty-two year track record, has sought to highlight and recognize these achievements - "This is our 22nd Annual Indian Achievement Week, and we seek to recognize these contributions of tribes to the state and their own people by presenting awards to these tribes." Hayden said OIO continues to look for possibilities to fill the gaps in tribal economic development - one of which she cited, is tourist opportunities that are available in the state. A Tourism Workshop was held Friday, November 20, the last day of the Achievement Week, which wrapped up with an Indian Achievement Reception with guests State Senator Kelly Haney and the Indian Business Person of the Year, Johnny Tiger, Creek, of Tiger Arts in Muskogee. Tiger's silkscreen and handpainted tee shirts and sweatshirts are carried by national department and western wear stores. The Reception was held at the Holiday Inn in Norman.

OIO, located in Norman, among other functions, assists tribes and individuals in going into business and "staying in business," Hayden emphasized, as well as making presentations to youth on entrepreneurship.

Hayden feels strongly about the approach Indian tribes should take in utilizing tourism as a means of economic development- "When tourists come to this country, they want to see two things- Washington, D.C. and Indians. We don't have Washington D.C., but we can show them Indians and it is up to us to figure out a way to do it our way- and must not allow ourselves to be exploited. This has to be done by tribes themselves and they will do it with integrity. Hayden said each tribe should make their own decisions and these decisions should enhance each of the other tribes in the state.

Chickasaw Tribe Holds Inaugural Ceremonies

Inauguration ceremonies for the 30th governor and the second lieutenant governor of the Chickasaw Nation were held on Friday, Oct. 16, at the Chickasaw voters to fill the tribe's top two executive offices in elections held last summer.

Gov. Anoatubby made tribal history in 1979 when he became the first Lt. governor the Chickasaw Nation. The result of a provision in the new Chickasaw Nation Constitution which was adopted that year. He was re-elected in 1983.

Lt. Gov. Brown has worked for the Chickasaw Nation for 13 years, more recently serving as the director of the tribe's employment and training department.

The inauguration ceremonies began at 9 a.m. before a crowd of more than 400. Tribal members, civic leaders and employees of the Chickasaw Nation filled the stands at the Chickasaw Community Center to witness the first "changing of the guard" at the Chickasaw Nation since 1973.

In his inaugural address, Gov. Anoatubby said that the Chickasaw Nation was at the dawn of a new age, "an age of ascendancy." He outlined the major goals for his adminstration, citing improved health care, better education and training, increased job opportunities and the need for increased efforts at preserving the great heritage of the Chickasaw people. Gov. Anoatubby urged "a spirit of cooperation among the Chickasaw people and leaders of the tribe." He said that the future holds opportunities and challenges for all Indian people and he pledged to be ready to accept those challenges.

During the inauguration ceremonies a new Chickasaw tribal judge was sworn in as were three members of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature. Charles Tate, of Ardmore, is the new judge. Dawatha Easterling, Robert Martin and David Stout were sworn in as members of the legislature.

A reception honoring the new governor and Lt. governor was held in the Chickasaw Nation Headquarters auditorium from 3 to 5 o'clock that afternoon. The event was hosted by the new members of the governor's staff and other tribal employees.

Regular Scheduled

Council Meeting

December 19, 1987- 10 a.m.

Mvskoke VEV Center to offer services to Indian vets. . .

By Helen Chalakee

The Mvskoke Chapter VEV are expecting to move into a newly renovated Center at the Oakdale school site, south of Okmulgee, early in '88.

Chapter Commander, John T. McIntosh, said the facility will house various programs designed to benefit the Indian veterans, such as claims assistance, employment counseling, and substance abuse counseling. The programs will be scheduled on regular basis and conducted by trained counselors.

McIntosh said the Chapter is soliciting new membership and all veterans are encouraged to join. Meetings are held each Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the existing facility.

A gift shop will be included when the doors are formally opened. The gift shop will display and sell authentic Indian made arts and crafts. McIntosh said anyone wanting to sell their handmade items through the VEV should contact him for more information.

Since the building and renovation funds were tribally appropriated last April, the Chapter has been operating a smoke shop from a small metal building on the front lawn of the proposed Center.

With proceeds from the smoke shop, they have been able to offset some of the expenses for traveling across the state to appear in parades, funerals, Pow Wow's and other special events where they represent Indian veterans and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Mvskoke Chapter VEV Color Guard is comprised of a group who are taking pride in their drill abilities. They recently competed in the drill competition at the National VEV Inter-tribal Convention held at Shawnee. In fact, they co-sponsored the event with the Seminole Chapter. The evening Pow Wow meal was entirely sponsored by the Mvskoke Chapter's financially resourceful smoke shop.

All the members are excited about the soon-to-be-opened Center because it will be the first of its kind in the United States geared toward assisting Indian veterans. The Center will be self-sufficient, operated from proceeds from the gift shop and the smoke shop. The Chapter hopes to help sponsor many worthwhile events and contribute to special causes.

McIntosh related the Chapter is looking forward to assisting other tribes in organizing chapters and obtaining centers such as theirs. "It's a rewarding challenge," McIntosh said, "and time-consuming." McIntosh, who owns and operates an overhead door company in Owasso, has spent almost half of his time since the chapter was organized getting the smoke shop running smoothly (mainly trying to purchase enough tobacco to supply the demand), overseeing the renovation and setting up the VEV Center opening. But,as John T. would say, "It's all in a days work!" One thing he emphasized was the importance of cooperation from fellow chapter members, "They are a great bunch of guys to work with," he said. "A core group has kept the chapter on its feet and involved," he again talked about his hopes for a big membership drive immediatley after the Center opens. Anyone wanting more information about the Center, membership, services, events, etc. should contact John T. at 918/272-6592 or 234-5181.

***LOOKING OVER BUILDING PLANS FOR THE RENOVATION OF THE VEV CENTER** are Chapter Secretary, Jim Burgess (L) and Chapter Commander, John T. McIntosh (R).*

Creek VEV participate in Vietnam Era Veteran Inter-tribal Association National Convention. . .

By Kathryn Bell

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chapter of the Vietnam Era Inter-tribal Association participated in that organization's National Convention held November 5 - 7 in Shawnee. The Convention was hosted by the Citizen Band Pottawatomie Tribe.

On Thursday, convention activities were held at the Pottawattomie Tribal Complex which included progress reports on the VA's National Indian Advisory Committee and the results of a survey taken on American Indian Vietnam Veterans. A committee meeting of the Women Veterans and Wives and Families of Vietnam Veterans was held on Thursday afternoon.

Thursday evening's special event was a showing at Central State University in Edmond of "Big Boys Don't Cry," a play by Vietnam Veteran Frank Otterman. It was the opening night for the thought-provoking play.

The second day, Friday, of the convention, featured programs, including a Veterans International Job Fair, designed to provide various resources for the vets. Friday night, a small, but intense group viewed the VA-produced video documentary "Shadow of the Warrior," the first media production concerning Indian Vietnam veterans. This was held in the Cinderella Motor Hotel Banquet Room in Shawnee. Mickey Block, an ex-special forces Navy commando and disabled veteran who served two tours of duty in Vietnam, was the keynote speaker for the evening. Earlier in the day, the video was shown, as well as the special music of Robert Eagle.

Saturday morning, in spite of the cold, drizzling rain, a shooting contest was held at the NRA Firing Range west of Shawnee. M-16's were the weapon used, with many of the Vets firing thier weapons for the first time since the war - an observation that created much discussion among those participating. The event was open to teams and individuals.

The highlight of the Convention was the Pow-Wow, which was held from 2 p.m. until midnight on Saturday at the Expo Center in Shawnee. The Veteran's Dance honored all veterans and was hosted by the Oklahoma Inter-tribal, Seminole Nation and Muscogee Nation VEV Honor and Color Guards.

A special Honor/Color Guard competition was held that night during the Pow-Wow and was won by the "Morning Star Chapter" of the Northern Cheyenne. Groups from Oklahoma, S. Dakota and Montana competed.

The Pow-Wow began with Gourd Dancing at 2 p.m. continuing until 5 p.m. Supper was held from 5 - 7, after which, the Color Guard Competition was held. At 8:30 p.m., the Grand Entry, with the Kiowa Black Leggings Warrior Society and Flag Song was held. War dancing continued until midnight. Arena directors were Lee Larney and Ira Birdcreek and Orval Kirk was the Master of Ceremonies.

John T. McIntosh, Commander of the Muscogee Nation VEV Chapter, spoke on behalf of Indian Vietnam vets: "Vietnam veterans are anxious to get started again, when the war began it was a war everyone supported, but later, when it was over, it was a war no one wanted and the Vietnam vet was left out...what we are trying to do through our own vet centers and activities such as these, is to show everyone that the Vietnam vet was ready to serve then and we are ready to serve now."

—Nearly two decades have past since the Vietnam War, and the search for accountability from the national consciousness, still goes on - the wounds still not healed in the minds of those who served and the families who lost-57,000 American soldiers lost their lives in the brutal war. Of the 42,000 Indians who served in Vietnam, 90% of whom enlisted, 300 lost their lives, according to inaccurate Defence Dept. statistics.

Economic/Community Development Resource Guide by AAIA Printed

The Association on American Indian Affairs is pleased to announce the publication of an economic and community development resource guide for Native Americans.

The guide, over 900 pages long, lists technical assistance organizations, selected government programs and agencies, database references, statistical sources, books and publications, information on doing business with the federal government, marketing references and miscellaneous information pertaining to economic and community development that the Association on American Indian Affairs has gathered in the last several years.

The guide includes the names and addresses of over 75 organizations active in economic and community development, a listing of more than 30 economic development books and publications, over 15 databases pertaining to Native Americans, and a state by state listing of craft shows--all fully indexed. The guide is designed to help both new and experienced planners by providing a wealth of information in one easy-to-use guide.

The guide is offered free of charge to American Indian tribes, Alaska Native villages and Native American organizations. To order the Economic and Community Development Resource Guide for Native Americans, please call AAIA's New York City office at 212-689-8720 or order by mail.

The Association on American Indian Affairs is a private, not-for-profit national citizens' organization funded by its members and contributors who are Indian and non-Indian. AAIA's professional staff works from offices in New York City and in the field with Native American tribes and organizations nationwide. Since 1923, the Association has been dedicated to helping Native American people and their communities in meeting the challenges they face--in the ways they see fit. Guided by its majority Native American Board of Directors, AAIA is developing new and creative ways to focus its resources where they are most needed today.

Readers Seeks Information on Chilocco Indian School. . .

Dear MNN,

I would like very much to get in touch with someone that can give me some information about Chilocco Indian School.

My father Jesse Lee Simmer was put in the school in about 1908, at the age of seven years. He played basketball and football. He also received honors for football.

My fathers roll number is 10,010. He was full blood Creek Indian.

I would appreciate hearing from someone.

D. Pauline Rogers
P.O Box 987
Henderson, Nev. 89015

Local Cherokee actor, Wes Studi, cast in ABC television special. . .

By Helen Chalakee

Wes Studi, Tulsa-area Cherokee actor has recently been cast in a 90-minute pilot for an ABC television series titled "Long Arm". The pilot is scheduled for nationwide viewing in January '88 and stars Michael Horse of "The Legend Of The Lone Ranger" movie fame as the LR's faithful companion "Tonto".

Studi portrays a Cherokee Indian U.S. Deputy referred to as "the Indian" who observes with a unique perspective the situations kindled by Horse, a U.S. Marshal named Long, who rouses the hearts of wild-west women while he is in pursuit of his outlaw brother.

Long Arm was filmed on location at Santa Fe, New Mexico, on the old Silverado movie set. The story is based on the Long Arm western adventure books about two brothers who were raised by outlaws, with the U.S. Marshall brother riding a fine line between law and outlaw.

Studi says the film is full of adventure and mid-1800 New Mexico political intrigue.

Studi was also recently cast in a feature film, "Pow Wow Highway" which was shot on location in Montana and Wyoming. Pow Wow Highway is scheduled for release next spring. In 1986, he was cast in a series of educational television programs, "We Are One", written by Creek author and poet, Joy Harjo, and filmed by Nebraska Educational Television (NETV). He also was cast in "Runaway", produced by NETV. He has appeared in the PBS American Playhouse production of "The Trial of Standing Bear".

Beginning his acting career with the American Indian Theatre Company in Tulsa, Studi has appeared in many of the theatre's productions, including: Black Elk Speaks, Royal Hunt of the Sun, Ten Little Indians, The Sting, Doing a Good One for the Redman, Land Sale, Bad Habits, and Runnin' on Indian Time.

Studi has trained with various acting workshops. He has authored a book, "The Adventures of Billy Bean", for the Cherokee Bi-lingual Program. In the mid-70's, he was employed with the Cherokee Nation Communication Program. While there, he wrote politically inspired articles for the tribal newspaper, *"The Cherokee Advocate"*, about the grassroot Cherokee people and "their" tribal government under the by-line of "Anyway James" which the former editor of the *Advocate* is proud to recall. However, after the "Anyway James" series- the articles, the writer and the editor were short-lived at Tsa-la-gi Nation.

Anyway. . .Studi's (then Studie, he inadvertently dropped the e from his name on a resume' and decided he liked it that way) special abilities and survival skills, especially in training show-horses, bartending, conversation and music- and a not-so-faithful ol' black pick-up truck, kept his head above water while waiting for the acting jobs to come in. During this time, he played the Gaslite Dinner Theatre in Tulsa.

He is now a member of the Screen Actor's Guild and recently auditioned for a part in the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority's six-part docu-drama, "Oklahoma Passage."

Wes is the father of a son, Daniel, and a daughter, Lea, who was quoted as saying while looking at some photos that "Dad really likes to pose around." Both children attend school at Crescent.

Andy and Maggie Studie, Wes' parents, live near Collinsville where Wes and his three brothers congragate for holidays, birthdays or any other excuse to eat their Mom's cooking. Dad, Andy, is well known and respected throughout Indian country for his sweat ceremonials. Brothers, Bob and Calvin are living in Nashville- playing music and promoting *their* "Express" band, which originated in the Tulsa area. Both have l-o-n-g hair and LOTS of smile, they say folks in Tennessee think they are Mexicans.

Swaping "success" stories, lots of joking, wrestling, laughing and play are the order of the day (and night) at the Studie household. Wes is now spending more time in L.A. He described the L.A. scene as very intense, "but you have to be there, if this (acting) is what you are going for! Laughingly, he described one of his promotional photographs as his "L.A. law look," Wes Studie- oops, Studi, apparently has what producers are looking for when they want the classic "Indian look".

CHEROKEE ACTOR, WES STUDI (L), WAS RECENTLY CAST IN "LONG ARM", AN ABC PILOT TO BE VIEWED NATION-WIDE IN JANUARY— He is shown with co-actor, Weasel Foreshaw (C), and star, Michael Horse, of "The Legend of The Lone Ranger" movie fame in which he played the LR's faithful companion, Tonto. Wes more recently was cast in a feature film, "Pow Wow Highway", to be released this spring.

Rance Hood artwork featured at Windmill Gallery, Norman

Comanche Indian artist, Rance Hood, was featured at a meet-the-artist champagne reception December 12 and 13 at the Windmill Gallery located in the Brookhaven Village Shopping Center at 3750 W. Robinson, Suite 103, in Norman.

The Oklahoma native recently returned from the 12th Annual Indian film Festival held in L.A. California, where he presented a painting honoring the late Will Sampson. Hood, a childhood friend of Sampson, titled the painting "Farewell to a Comrade."

Hood, born in 1941 near Cache, was featured on the cover of the national magazine Southwest Art in 1985 and is featured on the cover of Indian Image Calendar being produced this year. Known best for his flying horses, Hood has created a painting style hallmarked by explosiveness and storm imagery. His work is self described as traditional two-dimensional Indian art with abstract motifs.

Entrenched in traditional influences, his work is uniquely recognizable through his "storm center." He says his focus is an expression of three forces: his tribal heritage, his visionary spiritual life, and a practicing mysticism. Hood is a practicing member of the Native American Church, a Christian institution noted for its peyote ceremonies.

Hood was raised by his grandparents, who were traditional Indian people. Geometric symbols often seen in his work were taught to him by his grandmother through her beadwork and handmade Indian clothing. His grandfather, a Peyote Man in the Native American Church, taught Hood about traditional Indian spirituality. Hood's work often joins the imagery of his Oklahoma childhood with the soaring colors and symbols of the peyote rituals.

Hood once rode the rodeo circuit and draws from that experience to create the gravity defying flying or dancing horses. The long manes of the horses and the warriors hair seem to pull away from the figures in a turbulent motion, much like the few seconds spent on the back of a bucking bronc. Silhouetted horsemen or other ancestral symbols often appear in the backgrounds of his paintings.

Hood maintains the Rance Hood Studio in Oklahoma City, but exhibits his work from New York to California, and once had a show in Germany. His success, gleaned from 26 years of continous work as a full-time artist, is substantiated by a recent sale of one of one piece, called the "Sioux Rainmakers", for $47,000. His limited edition serigraphs sell for around $600, lithographs for $185 and signed posters for $40.

His rise to national fame has put his work on the demand side of the marketing cycle and he's currently working day and night to keep up with production. He says he's pleased to have an opportunity to show his work in his home state, only his second show in Oklahoma in 12 years.

K. and Andy Denton bring a combined experience of 43 years to the new gallery featuring some of the elder Denton's priceless pieces, combines original art, prints, serigraphs and lithographs and Indian handcrafts and jewelry. Limited editions of Hood's tribute to Will Sampson were available at his Norman show.

FAITH MISSION INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH WAS DEDICATED ON AUGUST 30 *with Pastor Richmond Carr officiating. The church is located in Dustin and was started with the first services in the home of Robin Deer. Services are now located in a house that has been renovated for its purpose. The Dedication took place on a warm summer afternoon at the old Spokogee town (Dustin). Afternoon speakers were The Reverends Bridge Chuckluck and Dan Phillips.*

Research on Creek Diabetes Underway

NORMAN——Researchers in the anthropology department at the University of Oklahoma have completed the first round of field work in an effort to discover the causes of diabetes among American Indians--a disease that is rapidly increasing among some Indian people.

While no diabetes at all was reported for Indians before 1950, the present incidence of the disease among elderly in some tribes is nearly 100 percent, said John Moore, an OU associate professor of anthropology who is directing the research with Professor Kenneth Weiss of Penn State University.

A $70,000 grant for the study was received from the American Diabetes Association based on the results of a pilot project conducted in the summer of 1985 by a group of undergraduate anthropology majors at OU, Moore said.

The strategy of the study is to compare rural and urban Creek Indians in the hope of finding the genetic component of diabetes and the environmental factors which trigger it, Moore explained. On the average, rural Creeks have a higher proportion of traceable Indian ancestors, and depend less on canned and preserved foods.

"Nutritional factors are highly suspect as the triggers for the disease among Indians, either total calories consumed or the kinds of calories--whether in the form of sugar, starch, protein or fat," Moore said.

Genealogies and blood samples from 150 urban Creeks and 150 rural Creeks have been collected by the OU researchers. From these genealogies, a smaller group of subjects will be selected--25 on each side--who are women over the age of 50 with at least three living first-degree relatives; parents, children or siblings.

In the second round of interviews, nutritional questionnaires will be used and a larger blood sample will be taken for chromosomal analysis.

"With modern techniques, researchers can deconstruct actual chromosomes to evaluate particular genes for their role in causing genetic disease," Moore said. "By comparing the genes of close relatives who do or do not have diabetes, it is hoped that the actual genes causing the disease can be isolated. This analysis of blood samples will be done at Penn State University in a unique laboratory developed by Dr. Weiss."

The second round of field work is scheduled for completion by February, Moore said. The laboratory work will require an additional year, with results to be published in the following year.

Indian subjects for the study and field researchers to interview them are being supplied by the Mvskoke Tribal Towns Inc., whose chairman is Toney Hill of Okemah, Okla.; the Creek Nation in Okmulgee, Okla., whose principal chief is Claude Cox; and the Redstick Party, chaired by Jorene Coker of Okmulgee.

Assisting in the research on the OU campus are Janis Campbell, a graduate student in anthropology, and Eric Bruner, a Creek Indian computer specialist.

Indian Health Service Given Agency Status

WASHINGTON— The Indian Health Service is being elevated within the Department of Health and Human Services to agency status, officials said recently.

"Raising the status of the Indian Health Service from a bureau to an agency signals our commitment to improving the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives," HHS Secretary Otis R. Bowen said in a statement.

I will become the seventh agency of the Public Health Service, gaining the same formal organizational status as such PHS agencies as the Food and Drug Administration, National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control.

The Indian Health Service provides health care to about one million people in 34 states, with more than 11,000 employees.

Letter from Evangelist Ernest Best. . .

"What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I shall take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows unto the Lord now in the presence of all his people. I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the Lord."

Psalms 116: 12; 13, 17

We are living in an age of high technology, advanced learning, and ultra sophistication. There are great opportunities for advanced education, and earning tremendous amounts of money, providing very high standards of living. With it comes access to the world of nice homes, cars, clothes, and fantastisc areas of recreation...going places and doing things as never before. This may look just great, but let's look at the picture in the light of the scriptures. Satan showed Jesus the whole world and told him, "I'll give you this if you will just bow down and worship me." Jesus answered him, "Man does not live by bread alone."

Some of us don't have good jobs and money, but the world offers so much to everyone to occupy them, employing all their time, mental abilities and physical strength. It not only entertains, but gets us involved in "good" causes, thereby leaving us no time or energy to even worship God, let alone serve Him in some capacity.

Satan seems to have managed to get all reference to God out of public life, on the job, in school, or on television. If there is reference to God or Christians, it is in a derogatory way, making them appear to be less than mentally competent. The pressure is to conform, be sophisticated, be "cool"...don't be spiritual. We are being robbed of the essence of life...LOVE. God is love. The world says "Love" through humanistic efforts. The Bible says the human heart is "desperately wicked." We cannot love without the Lord in our lives.

Even many Christians are neglecting their Lord. Their hearts have grown cold as the philosophy of the world has crept into their lives. They have lost their first love of the things of God. Perhaps we should offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and deny ourselves some of the pleasures this world has to offer. Perhaps we should declare a personal "fast" toward some of the things we enjoy as a matter discipline. Few of us know what the apostle Paul meant when he said, "I keep under my body and bring it into subjection," or "Endure hardness as a good soldier."

The Bible says, "Be sober, be vigilant: because your adversary the devil as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: WHOM RESIST...!! Satan is very subtle. Be aware of his tempting you to fulfill your life in humanistic ways. The Bible says, "In the last days...men shall be lovers of their own selves...lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God." "Take heed to yourselves, lest at anytime your hearts be overcharged..with the cares of this life.." "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold."

We have covered a lot of miles and experienced many things in October. I flew into the very remote village of Lac La Croix in Canada. There has not been any type of church in that village in many years and sin has taken a heavy toll. The chief shared with me the burden of his heart for his people. I told him what Jesus Christ had done in my life, in the lives of others, and could do for his people. Others had gone before me, witnessing and planting gospel seeds in that village. God had been preparing hearts for this point in time. The chief accepted my witness and is now allowing Sunday School and church services in the village. Praise God! What a victory.

We then went to Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation. We preached in three revivals. Some of these areas are difficult. It is necessary to bring people to church in vans or buses. One night the young pastor had a van load of people when a young man, who had been drinking, demanded at gun-point that the pastor stay and talk to him. He threatened to kill both the pastor and himself. Suicide is not unusual there. The pastor turned and walked away, promising to return after service. The young man entered the back of the church during the service. The pastor persuaded him to wait until after the service and took him home with him. He talked with him all night. I also had the opportunity to counsel him and his wife. The following night, he, his wife and his father were in service. He and his wife (who already professed to know Christ) came for rededication that night. Many others came for prayer and rededication. One young woman was saved.

We took our travel trailor home, then flew to Hoopa Reservation in California. We have just finished that revival. God truly blessed and gave victory in that church. Satan is fighting the work of God everywhere we go. Please pray for the work among the Indian people, for strength for God's servants and the Christians, as well as reaching the lost. Pray for us also as we look toward a few weeks in Canada. Pray for safe travel, physical strength, and an outpouring of the Spirit of God. Thank you so much for your prayers and faithful support.

Your Missionaries to the American Indian,
Bro. Ernest, Bennie & Jerry Best

Choctaw Legends Retold. . .

By Rita Laws, Reprint from Bįshnįk, November 1987

The Choctaws once believed that everyone has two shadows, not just one. The inside shadow is a ghost which travels to another faraway place when the body dies. "The Land of the Ghosts" as it was called, was thought to be a giant playground where people played and danced and had fun forever! No one was ever sick or cold or hungry in this place. There were plenty of melons and other delicious foods for all. It was believed that everyone would be allowed inside this "heaven", everyone that is, except anyone who had ever murdered a Choctaw! Murderers had to stand outside and watch the games for eternity. The second shadow, the one on the outside which we can see, sometimes remained on earth after a person died. These shadows were able to roam at night and even hoot like an owl!

Interview with Stella Coser:

Clans Important To Early Creek Culture and Family Structure

By Rita Williams

In the beginning after the world was made there were no people or living creatures. Then in the forest the cedar trees began to shake. Roots of the cedar shot up from the ground. From the roots walked the first Indian. He was of the panther clan and the strongest. (Tiger and panther are synomous in legend.) Next came the Indian who was to head the wind clan, bringing peace and comfort to others. In turn then came the deer, bird, bear, raccoon, beaver, mink, fox, mud potato, alligator, skunk, rabbit, horse, and last of all, the snake.

The Master of Breath decreed that this was to be the beginning of families. Indians were instructed that they were never to marry within their own clan. (This was regarded as incest, and even in recent times was punished by clipping the ears of the guilty ones.) Children always belong to the clan of the mother, and it is the duty of members of her clan to punish the offspring for wrong-doing.

Train up a child in the way he should go and when he grows old he shall not depart, are spiritual principles that Stella Coser has applied to her traditional and cultural upbringing.

Stella's father was a Presbyterian preacher and graduate of the old Kendall College, now Tulsa University. Hosea Halley's first calling was to his flock and the church he pastored. But another important part of his life was education. Traditional values and customs were his beliefs. According to Stella, he would speak of their heritage. "It was important to our family to tell us of our heritage." "I remember dad used to tell me all the time where I came from, what tribal town I belonged to and my clan name."

"Another important teaching was to know who our cousins were." "First cousins were considered as close as brothers and sisters." "Now days they don't know anything like this." "A long time ago, instead of the father being the head of the household, the mother's brother, who would be your uncle, was the head of the household- when I was little and wouldn't mind at home or maybe at church, I used to hear the grown-ups say, "I'll tell your uncle and he will scratch you"...that was meant for the children to respect their uncle," she said. "if you find out who your relatives are, then you will know where you belong," she added. "Indians always had respect for one another when you belong to a part of their family."

Clans back in the older days didn't want the same clan members to marry each other, if you did, it was like blood marrying." "If some intermarried, they got a whipping." "I remember my late husband George's aunt getting a whipping."

"In the earlier years clans used to be real close, if you were off somewhere and needed someplace to stay, you could always count on a clan relative to take you in."

Stella recalls an account told to her by her great-great grandmother who came on the Trail of Tears.

"Grandmother used to tell of how hard and cold the journey was and that some of the starving women used to take their babies and slap them against a tree so they wouldn't have to suffer."

"There was also an old Indian lady who told my husband of another incident on the trail." "There was a certain young man with our bunch sitting by a tree keeping watch and he would tell which direction and how far that we should go. After they arrived at Fort Gibson she had later learned that the man was, 'Hobethe' Yahola."

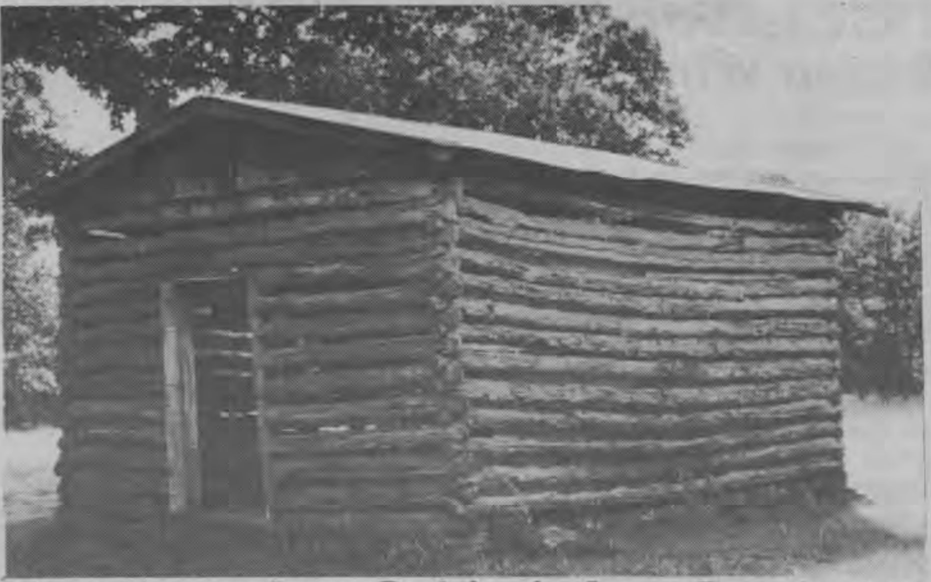
Chitto Harjo, better known as Crazy Snake and opposed the allotment of tribal lands was Stella's great-great uncle on her fathers side. Stella said, "My father used to say that the people blamed him for some things that he didn't do." "Dad heard that after he was shot he went to Choctaw country and later we heard that he was buried at Smithville." "His real name was Wilson Jones." "The opposition stemmed from believing that the lands should not be divided up and that the lands belonged to all Creeks." She stated.

"George and I always felt that it was important to teach our children about Creek traditions and customs." "Sometimes we would sit around the kitchen table and talk to them like my father had taught me."

"We have taught our children about the Creek ways and their tribal towns and clans." "Now it is up to them to teach their offspring."

Stella and her late husband were great supporters of their children. They could be seen on the sidelines enjoying every moment. "Whatever our children did we always made sure we were there," remarked the mother of six children.

Continuing her conversation Stella got up from her chair and picked up her sixteen-month old granddaughter whom she occasionally babysits for and sat down again-a scene that is so typical of the Indian grandmother putting love into each pat on the childs back and every bounce of the knee. "I have raised six children, three boys and three girls." "George Jr, who is employed at the Indian Health center in Tulsa, Pete, who has his Doctors degree from the University of Arkansas and is an Associate Professor



One-Room Log Cabin is Last Reminder of Tulmochussee Church and School

By Rita Williams

Weathered, but not beaten. Empty, but not forgotten, stands the one-room log cabin located on the Tulmochussee Indian Baptist grounds.

The log cabin is a reminder for whose purpose it served. It was at one time Tulmochussee's first church and school.

The one-room cabin with its hewned out logs is just big enough for a podium and maybe 4 small benches. The age of the cabin is not known as it had been removed in its earlier years from the ceremonial grounds just north of the presently located church.

Toby Alexander and Martin Coate were the first teachers in the old log cabin. Martin Choate was the pastor before it was moved.

Raymond McGirt, member of Tulmochussee remembers his grandmother, Betty Wilson Cully, telling him about the log cabin before the present church was built. "Some of the ceremonial people would get drunk and disturb the services by riding their horses through the door and threatening people," he said.

"I remember the door that used to be here, had bullet holes through it. Grandma used to say they would shoot at the building and try to tear things up." Raymond remembers seeing the door when he was young.

"His grandmother also spoke of a small war that broke out among the people around the Tulmochussee area. Raymond said, "She was around three or four at the time and remembers the little children crying and the people getting hurt." Betty Wilson Cully was 86 years old when she died in 1948.

Presently the church is supported by a handful of elder members whose health is failing. A desire of the church is to see the log cabin restored while it still has strength and the weather hasn't taken its toll.

The log cabin is a historical marker indeed being one of the first churches and school for the Creek Indians in their time, to be left standing.

Indian Methodist Churches Spark Youth's Interest with Volleyball Tournaments. . .

Church *volleyball tournaments* generated much interest and many participants among the young adults this summer.

The Indian Methodist churches holding tournaments for the first time this year were, Choska, Springfield, Newtown and Big Cussetah.

"This is a ministry within a ministry," stated Rev. Mike Harjo, pastor of Springfield Indian Methodist church as he watched his young adults participate in Big Cussetah's church volleyball tournament.

"Alot of our Indian churches do not have many members left and the young are few and far between." "I think this is a good way of creating fellowship among the people and the churches that don't have alot of youth--these teams are getting them involved." Harjo said, "The ministry is not only inside the four walls but, outside also."

Springfield church held a volleyball tournament this summer with 22 teams entering and also had a twelve and under team. There were in attendance around 400 to 500 people.

Clans. . .

in Indian Student Counseling at O.S.U, Wayne, who graduated from Bacone College and is a runner, Geneva Wallace, lives in Muskogee and graduated O.S.U., and Nettie Harjo graduated from Haskell Junior College and is currently a student at Okmulgee tech and resident.

Stella's mother was Millie Checotah and she was raised around Cussetah community south of Morris. She belongs to the Cussetah tribal town and is from the Fox clan.

Facts You Should Know:

1. Injuries are a leading cause of death for American Indians and Alaskan Natives.
2. Injuries account for the greatest number of hospital days spent in IHS hospitals.
3. Injuries are the second leading cause of visits to outpatients clinics.
The Most Important Fact Of All...
4. Injuries are the most preventable public health problem of all !!!

1987 Indian National Finals Rodeo Winners Results Posted

By Rita Williams

The 1987 Indian National Finals Rodeo was held November 19-22 in Alburquerque, New Mexico.

Nine regions throughout the U.S. and Canada competed for the World Championship title in their respective events. Each region had sixteen 'top qualifiers' representing their association at the finals.

Added attractions to the rodeo was the Indian trades fair and pow-wow which drew many customers, spectators and contestants.

Bob Arrington, President of the I.N.F.R board of directors stated, "Overall everything went good." "This year was a big plus for us in that we were able to fulfill six student scholarships in the amount of $166.00 each-which has been one of the main goals for the six-man board of directors since its inception." Arrington said, "The scholarships are initiated by each region polling their own people and submitting their names-its's by this they are picked."

The students receiving scholarships were, Dee Keener, Leslie Clifford, Marty Not—Afraid, Daryl Boyd, Skeeter Campbell and D.C. Holman.

Bob added, "The location of the 1988 finals is being looked at, further discussion with a final decision will be made in January during our board of directors meeting to be held in Denver, Colorado."

Sponsors for the I.N.F.R. were, Coors, Levi's and Skoal. General Manager is Clem McSpadden, of Chelsa, Okla. Rodeo announcers were, E."Boe" Bowman, Tohatchi, New Mexico and Jim Thompson, Sturgis, South Dakota. The pickup men were Barry Shade, Stardoff, Alberta Canada and Brad Churchill, Fowler, Colorado. Livestock contractor was Harry Vold, Fowler, Colorado. Clowns and bullfighters were Jon Taylor, Crowler, Texas and Dwayne Harjo, Altaldena, California. Judges were Lee Wheaton, Mounds, Okla and Bob Gotfiredson, Kamloops, British Columbia.

The 1987 Indian National Finals Rodeo results are as listed.

Bullriding

1. Daniel Susan - 303 - 1026.66
2. Tommy Trott - 301 - 770.01
3. Mika Calico - 246 - 513.34
4. Tim Robinson - 235 - 256.67

Barrel Racing

1. Kerri Adams - 63.40 - 1026.66
2. Crystal Colliflower - 63.63 - 770.01
3. Sissy Williams - 64.10 - 513.34
4. Livia Piche - 64.24 - 256.67

Bareback Riding

1. Jim Jacobs - 318 -1026.66
2. D. C. Holman - 348 - 770.01
3. Tim Pankrantz - 304 - 513.34
4. Tim Jacobs - 294 - 256.67

Saddle Bronc Riding

1. Howard Hunter - 316 - 1026.66
2. Carlton Pioche - 290 - 770.01
3. Scotty Augure - 286 - 513.34
4. James Hunt, Jr - 219 - 256.67

Team Roping

1. Sam Bird and Dick Powell - 45.8 - 693.84 each.
2. Leonard Yazzie and Victor Begay - 62.4 - 520.00 each.
3. Kurtis Etsitty and Rick Tolino - 64.0 - 346.66 each.
4. Tarz Foreman and Paul Lee Foreman - 64.1 - 173.34 each.

Calf Roping

1. Ed Holyan - 61.9 - 1,026.66
2. Jerry Small - 68.6 - 770.01
3. John Boyd Jr. - 70.5 - 513.34
4. Lawrence Crawler - 83.6 - 256.67

Steer Wrestling

1. Wright Bruised Head - 24.1 - 1,026.66
2. Bruce La Belle - 33.5 - 770.01
3. Larry Parker - 37.1 - 513.34
4. Clyde Colliflower - 38.2 - 256.67

The 1987 All-Around champion is Jerry Small from Ashland Montana, Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association. The Canadian Champion is Wright Bruisedhead from Ponoka, Alberta of the Western Indian Rodeo and Exhibition Association. The Region Champions were the Great Plains Indian Rodeo Association.

CN Communications Dept Videos Available

Twenty four video tape programs on Creek Indian subjects are now available from the Creek Nation Communications department. The programs, ranging in length from 10 minutes to half an hour, cover a wide range of topics including Creek culture, history, religion, government, economic development, health and education.

One of the most recent productions is "The Praise of Our Fathers: Spiritual Traditions of The Muscogee People." This program explores many aspects of Creek religious life, both traditional and Christian. Unique patterns of worship and fellowship at Creek churches are portrayed, and their link to traditional ceremonial practices explained. The painful divisions caused by the coming of the missionaries are discussed, along with current attempts to reconcile and reunify Creek people in one Spirit. The program has been well received on both the local and national level.

A complete list of the video programs and brief explanations of their subjects, is available from the communication department upon request.

Programs may be acquired by providing blank video cassettes (VHS or BETA) and paying a nominal duplicating fee of $5.00 up to two hours of programming can be recorded on one blank tape for the same cost.

For more information about the programs or recommendations on what kind of videotape to buy, contact Gary Robinson, communications department, (918) 756-8700 ext. 310.

MORNING STAR PRESIDENT, NEGIEL BIGPOND (L), *shown with Dr. Emmett Chase; Joan Freeman, Executive Director American Indian Free Clinic, and Dr. Don Plance. The clinic is located in Compton, California.*

Morning Star Visits California Indian Health Clinic/Benefit

Recently Morning Star President, Negiel Bigpond and secretary Anita Freeman visited the American Indian Clinic in Compton, California. A tour of the clinic facilities was given by the Executive Director, Mrs. Joan Freeman. We want to thank Mrs. Freeman for sharing her insight and information. We also attended the White Buffalo Award Banquet held by the American Indian Clinic, and were able to meet several well known people such as actors Woody Strode, Max Gail, Iron Eyes Cody and Tenaya Torres, who are active in promoting Native American causes.

Currently Morning Star is planning a fund raising concert. Morning Star holds a Gospel Concert every year, but this will be the first major fund raising concert. This benefit concert is to raise much needed funds to operate the Awareness Program and Prison Outreach work as well as the on going of the ministry work. We ask you to be in prayer for the success of this benefit.

The Morning Star Drug, Alcohol and Inhalant Awareness program is scheduled to make presentations on January 14 at the McAlester Public Schools, at the request of Mr. Robert Kernell, Director of Indian Education Programs. This will be our first presentation in 1988, we hope to reach and inform a greater number of youth during this coming year with our program. Last year we reached over 3,000 individuals. Our program is not limited to schools but we want to reach the communities with information on substance abuse. Our primary reasons for this effort with our Awareness Program is to detour the end results of substance abuse, that being oftens times prison terms or death.

For further information or questions about Morning Star Ministries, please contact us at P.O. Box 97, Bixby, OK. 74008 or call (918) 756-1512.

ENJOYING A TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING DINNER AT THE CN DINING HALL *are Okmulgee Senior Citizens, left to right; Dan Harjo, Erwin Watson, Della McQueen and Martha McCombs. Rev. Thomas Long of Sapulpa gave the message with Henry Tarpalachee acting as Master of Ceremonies.*

—OBITUARIES—

BEULAH MAE KING

Beulah Mae King, longtime Okmulgee County resident, died Friday, Nov. 13 following a lengthy illness. She was born May 30, 1925 in Tallahassee.

Mrs. King was clerk/stenographer for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She was preceded in death by her father, Caeser A. King in 1964.

Survivors include her mother, Mrs. Peggie B. King of Okmulgee; one son Yahola Simms II of Palm Springs, Calif; five daughters, Sharron J. Clark of Fairbanks, Alaska, Winona F. Shilling of Norman, Peggy S. West of Lexington, Okla., Yolanda A. Otero of Immokalee, Fla., and Cecelia K. Freeland of Prattsville; a brother, Jackson L. King of Sand Springs; two sisters Helen M. McCabe of Window Rock, Ariz., and Ann L. Hardman of Tahlequah; 13 grandchildren, one great grandchild and several nieces and nephews.

Wake services were held Monday evening at the Tallahassee Indian Methodist Church.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m Tuesday, Nov. 17 at Newtown Methodist Church with Rev. Tom Berryhill and Rev. Togo Berryhill officiating.

Interment was in the Tallahassee Cemetery under the direction of the Cantrell-Kelley Funeral Home.

Pallbearers were Glenn Clark, Ron West, Cliff Shilling, Matthiew Otero, Brett Freeland, and Allen Hensley.

SAMMIE RICHARD FOX

Funeral services were held for Sammie Fox, Tuesday November 17, 1987.

He was born September 4, 1946 and died November 13, 1987.

Negiel Bigpond officiated the services held at the Leonard Funeral Chapel in Bixby.

The interment was in the Fox Family Cemetery in Mounds, Okla.

JOHN ARTUSSEE

Funeral services for John Artussee Sr., 65, was held at 10 a.m Saturday Dec. 5 in the Salem Baptist Church with Rev. Ernie Margworth officiating.

Interment was in the Artussee Family Cemetery under direction of the Shurden Funeral Home of Henryetta.

Mr. Artussee, who was born Aug. 24, 1922 in McIntosh County, died Nov. 30 in a car-train accident near Henryetta. He was married to Mary Ruth Taylor on June 11, 1946 in Okmulgee. He was a farmer and a veteran of World War II, serving with the U.S. Army.

Survivors include his wife, Ruth, of the home on Rt. 1, Weleetka; four sons, John Jr., Tulsa, Daniel of Henryetta and David and Audie, both of the home; four daughters, Mrs. Phyllis Savage; Lawrence , Kansas, Mary Croney, Widener, Ark., Virginia Tedlock, Weleetka and Tana Gregory of Norman; two brothers, Barney Ryle of Salem, Ore., and Yarhola Artussee of Oklahoma City; two sisters, Ina and Juanita Artussee, both of Morris and several grandchildren.

A GENERATION OF CREEK PATRIOTS *are shown at a recent, Daughters of the American Revolution program held in Sapulpa. Arthur M. Foster, center, of Bristow, is shown with his grandchildren, members of the Children of the American Revolution (Nancy Green Chapter). They are Tol Foster, a 7th grader and Rhanda Foster, who is a Freshman, both of the Bristow Public School. They are the children of Stephen Foster, an attorney and Sally Foster, who is employed with the CN Sapulpa Indian Health Clinic. The elder Foster is the son of the Creek interpretor Chilly Morgan, who was born in the 1800's and a member of the Creek House of Warriors. The CN Communications Dept. were the featured guests of the DAR meeting and gave a presentation on the "Development and History of the Creek Government". The meeting was held at the Sapulpa Public Library and was coordinated in part by Jean Brown, DAR member of Creek descent.*

Okemah Indian Community News

The Okemah Indian students at Oakes Elementary school are asking help in obtaining audio/visual tools, athletic equipment, reference books and teaching aids free of charge with the help of the community.

These are grades K-through fifth grade. The Indians are a community when it comes to helping our Indian students. This help is asked for all races of people, white. black and Indians. But, I am asking your help for our Indian students.

Labels for education is a program sponsored by Campbells soup company and all students will be collecting labels etc., from Nov 1 to March 1 1988. Products to look for include all of Campbells soup products, liquid or dry, Campbells tomato juice, bean products, "V-8" juice, Franco American products, Campbells fresh mushrooms, tomatoes, pepperidge farm products, Vlasic pickle products, Swanson canned and frozen food products, all Prego spaghetti sauces and Prego frozen entrees. Mrs. Pauls frozen entrees and frozen foods and juice works blend of 100% fruit juice. Keep lids from the pickle products. If the school can collect 75,000 labels, Campbell's will provide the equipment needed at the end of the drive.

This year the school will receive several Bell and Howell tape player/recorders. You are being asked to save the labels, lids, or other needed symbols and give them to an Indian Oaks student or bring them to the school during regular school hours.

If you don't know of an Indian student at Okemah Oaks school, send any amount of labels to the counselor (Indian) and say its for a child who is in said grade.(Indian student) For more information contact the counselor, Oaks school, Okemah Ok. 74859

JOHN EDMINSTEN

Funeral services for John Edminsten, 67, were held Friday at 2 p.m. at the Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church with Rev. Earl Dunson officiating and Rev. Ray McGilbray assisting, Edminsten died in a Tulsa hospital Dec. 1.

Mr. Edminsten was born at Okemah on Feb. 17, 1920 and was married to Miss Dorothy Crosser. He was in the Air Force for four years during WWII and retired from Tinker Air Force Base in Sept. 1974 after working there for 23 years. He had been a resident of Okemah since Jan. 1977 and was a member of the Thlopthlocco United Methodist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Dorothy Edminsten, of the home in Okemah, six sons and five daughters-in-law; Maurice and Teresa Edminsten, Kemp, Texas; Monte and Linda Edminsten, Norman; Melton and Dana Edminsten, McAlester; Terry and Lori Edminsten; Okemah; Damon Edminsten, Okemah; Larry and Cynthia Deardorff, Shawnee; one brother, Warren Doxtator, Okemah; one sister, Mrs. Inez Walker, Okemah and eleven grandchildren.

Interment was in the Highland Cemetery under the direction of Parks Brothers Funeral Home.

Little Cussetah New Year's Eve Watch . . .

Little Cussetah Indian Methodist Church will be hosting a New Year's Eve Watch night starting at 8:00 p.m.

All singers and listeners are welcome. The location is 2 miles west of Schulter.

OU to sponsor conference on Native American health promotion. . .

A conference focusing on community recreation and fitness programs for Native Americans is planned April 6 through 8 at the Seven Oaks Hotel and Conference Center in San Antonio, Texas.

Sponsored by Health, Urban and Community Programs at the University of Oklahoma, the theme of the three-day conference is "Indian Health Promotion: community Recreation and Fitness."

"Participants will have an opportunity to learn new skills in implementing fitness and recreation programs in their communities," said Billy Rogers, conference coordinator.

Conference topics will include Native American games in recreation programs, wellness programs for Indian schools, spirituality and Indian running, fitness for alcholism treatment programs, fund raising and volunteerism.

Group participation in planned activities will be emphasized, Rogers said. "People learn more when they can actively participate," he noted.

For more information about the conference, people can contact Rogers at Health, Urban and Community Programs, 555 Constitution, Norman, OK 73037; telephone 405/325-1711. The toll-free number for Oklahoma residents is 800/522-0772, or 800/523-7363, ext. 1711 for people who live outside Oklahoma.

Childrens Tattoo Could Contain LSD

A special alert from Occupational Health and Safety. According to police authorities, a form of tattoo called "Blue Star" is readily available in some areas of the United States. This is a small sheet of white paper containing blue stars the size of a pencil eraser. Each star is impregnated with L.S.D. and can be removed from the paper to be placed in the mouth. Absorption can also occur through the skin by simply handling the paper to the the tattoo.

There are also brightly colored paper tabs resembling postage stamps in size, which have pictures of "Superman," "Mickey Mouse," "Care Bears," and other characters, also butterflies, with a picture of Mickey Mouse, wrapped in foil in a clear ziploc bag. They come in five sheets with one hundred perforated 1/2" square stamps.

This is a new way of selling acid. A young child could happen upon these, and have a fatal "trip." It is also feared that little children could be given a free "tattoo" by older children who want to have some fun. It is important that all parents be alerted in case their child is involved, even innocently.

Happy
HOLIDAYS

New N.C.A.I. President Promotes Unity-

The 44th Annual Convention of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) has elected the first Pueblo Indian to serve as NCAI President in its four-decade history. John F. Gonzales of the Pueblo of San Ildefonso was elected as the thirteenth President by Indian and Native governmental delegates and individual members on September 24 in Tampa, Florida.

Also electd to the NCAI Executive Committee during the week long convention were three women and twelve men to represent Indian Country for the next two years. The 16-member Executive Committee is comprised of eight heads of Indian governments, four tribal legislators, two social services directors, one tribal attorney and one college president. They range in age from 32 to 71, and seven members have served previously as officials of the organization.

At 32, Gonzales is the youngest person to attain the NCAI presidency, which he won by a vote of 9,500 to 6,034. He was backed by outgoing President Ruben A. Snake, Jr., Winnegbago Tribal Chairman, whose health did not permit a re-election bid. NCAI Executive Director Suzan Shown Harjo said that, "John's traditional foundation, energetic vision, tribal and regional work and national experience as NCAI First Vice President for the past two years made him an ideal candidate and will serve the organization well in advocating for cultural, resource and economic rights for all Indian and Native nations and people.

Gonzales is a Council Member, Special Projects Director and former Lt. Governor for the San Ildefonso Pueblo, located north of Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is in his second four-year term as Secretary/Treasurer of the All Indian Pueblo Council, an Albuquerque-based consortium of 19 Pueblos. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Stanford University and a master's degree in planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with specializations in urban and rural studies and regional economic development.

Gonzales ran an upbeat campaign. He told the electorate that, "the key to leading is not to pretend to have all the answers, but to draw on the wisdom and knowledge that all Indian people possess, especially our traditional and religious leaders." He pledged "to work with all tribes on a national issues agenda to focus energies on creative solutions to old problems to lead us toward an improved quality of life."

He urged "a unified approach to the elevation of Indian and Native concerns in the upcoming U.S. Presidential elections,to the reaffirmation of the unique federal-tribal relationship and to the education of the American people about tribal rights."

Elected to replace Gonzales as NCAI First Vice President was Gaiashkibos who is the immediate past tribal chairman of the Lac Courte Oreilles Council. Recording Secretary elected to office was Gay Kingman, President of the Cheyenne River Community College. Re-elected by acclamation to the post of Treasurer was Buford Rolin, Health Director for the Poarch Band of Alabama Creeks.

Gonzales, Gaiashkibos, Kingman, Rolin and Harjo comprise the NCAI Administrative Board which deals with financial and other matters for the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will serve until the 46th Annual NCAI Convention in October 1989 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Other scheduled meetings are: the 1988 and 1989 NCAI Executive Council Annual Meetings in Washington D.C., which will be held during the first quarter of the calendar years; the NCAI Mid-Year Conference in Green Bay, Wisconsin, June 15-17, the 1988, 45th Annual NCAI Convention in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, October 24-28, 1988.

The newly elected and re-elected area vice presidents are: Aberdeen Area: *Wayne Ducheneaux, Chairman Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.* ***Albuquerque Area-*** *Stanley Paytiamo, Governor, Pueblo de Acoma.* ***Anadarko Area:*** *Edgar L. French, President Delaware Tribe of Western Oklahoma.* ***Billings Area—*** *Darrell L. Brown, Sr., Co-Chairman of the Northern Arapho Business Council.* ***Juneau Area-*** *Will Mayo, Special Assistant to the President, Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc.* ***Minneapolis Area-*** *Hilary Waukau , Member, Menominee Tribal Legislature.* ***Muskogee Area-*** *Harry F. Gilmore, Chairman, Quapaw Tribe.* ***Northeastern Area-*** *Loretta Crane, In-House Attorney for the Seneca Nation of Indians.* ***Phoenix Area-*** *Harriet Toro, Chairperson of the Tohono O'odham Nation.* ***Portland Area-*** *Joe De La Cruz, President, Quinault Nation.* ***Sacramento Area-*** *Dale Risling, Council Member Hoopa Valley Tribe.* ***Southeastern Area-*** *Billy Cypress, Chairman Miccosukee Tribe.*

Susan S. Harjo- the driving force behind National Congress of American Indians

Executive Director for the NCAI and the NCAI Fund is Suzan Shown Harjo, who has served in that capacity since May of 1984. She is Cheyenne and Creek and a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapho Tribes of Oklahoma.

A writer, policy analyst and lobbyist, Harjo has been a leading force in Indian legislative policy development for 15 years- having distinguished herself in such areas as religious freedom issues, land claims settlements, tribal recognition acts, extensions to the statutes of limitations on damage claims under 28 USC 2415, recognition of Indian self-determination and human rights under the Helsinki Accords, Indian country taxation issues and more than 200 specific bills and appropriations matters.

The NCAI Fund, now in its third decade, is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization which conducts programs for the benefit of the NCAI membership and all of Indian Country. At present, the NCAI Fund operates programs regarding solar energy, high-level radioactive nuclear waste transportation, environmental information and training, veterans business development and other resource and social services areas. The NCAI Fund receives restricted public program funding and general support from various private sources, including The Ford Foundation.

The National Congress of American Indians was founded in 1944 to serve as a voice in Washington, D.C., for Indian sovereign, cultural, resource and human rights. The NCAI is the oldest and largest national Indian organization, representing a broad membership of American Indian and Alaska Native governments and people.

She has served as News Director for the American Indian Press Association and as legislative Liaison for the Native American Rights Fund, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior and for Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver and Kampleman law firm in Washington, D.C. She is a Trustee and the Indian Issues Chair for the Museum of the American Indian; a second-term National Governing Board Member for Common Cause; President of the Morning Star Foundation and On/Air; and a Member of the Boards of Directors of the National Women's Law Center, the Human Environment Center and the Amerindian Circle. A founder of the "Average Savage Review" and a published poet for three decades, Harjo 42, also is the mother of Adriane Shown Harjo, 22, and Duke Ray Harjo, 14.

"Trail of Tears" recognition should be given to all S.E. tribes on proposed trail.

Dear Chief Cox:

As a mixed-blood Creek, I felt compelled to write this letter and bring the matter to the attention of Florida's Senators as well. The Creeks and other Southeastern tribes deserve recognition on the proposed Trail.

Dear Congressman:

I read with interest a story in the December 2, 1987 St. Petersburg Times concerning the establishment of a historic Trail of Tears, marking the land and water routes traveled by the Cherokee Indians during the Removal Period in the 1830's.

Commemorating the forced removal of these Native Americans is a noble and compassionate gesture. However, I hasten to point out that the Cherokee were only one of five tribal groups relocated from the Southeast to "Indian Territory" which later became the State of Oklahoma.

The Choctaws of Mississippi, with a census figure of 23,400, were the first tribe removed by President Andrew Jackson's Removal Act. Next were 22,000 Creeks from Alabama and Georgia. More than 4,900 Chickasaws were removed from Tennessee, northern Mississippi and Alabama and also, 3,000 Seminoles from Florida.

Acknowledging all the tribal groups affected by the Removal Act is imperative, particularly since the Cherokees represented only a minority of the total Native American population that was moved to Oklahoma.

With few minor exceptions-- a route from Fort Mitchell, south of Columbus, Ga. to Mobile, Ala. and the water route from Tampa/St. Petersburg to Mobile-- the same routes were used to relocating these Native Americans from the Southeast to Oklahoma. Therefore, all tribes that were relocated should receive equal attention on the markers installed by the Department of Interior.

Sincerely,
Gary Stogner
1918 S. Nevada Ave. NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33703

Muskogee Area Representative Elected President of New Indian Program

Robert L. Miller, Morris, has recently been elected president of the National Intertribal Agriculture Council at a meeting held in Las Vegas November 17-19.

The Council was developed from the National Indian Agriculture Working Group which was formed by the Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Indian Affairs under the guidelines of the Wheeler-Howard Act. The purposed of the Council is to provide leadership in the areas of agriculture and land management and to effect improvements in the current BIA and those of other federal entities.

Eighty-two (82) tribes, consisting of three hundred (300) individuals throughout the Nation, were represented at the convention in Las Vegas. Other officers elected were; Sef Lente, Albuquerque, New Mexico - Vice-President; Lonnie Race Horse, Portland, Oregon - Secretary; and Alfred Ketzler, Juneau, Alaska - Treasurer.

Miller is a 1952 graduate of OSU and a lifelong rancher in Okmulgee County. He has served two terms in the State Senate and was the majority whip, served on the Morris School Board, Okmulgee County SCS, Chairman of the Board and PCA, and past president of the Okmulgee County Cattlemen's Association. He is one-quarter Creek and is the son of Bluford W. Miller, an original allottee. Miller is married and he and his wife, Jane, have two daughters.

Officers elected to American Indian Scholarship's Board

New officers of the American Indian Scholarships, Inc. (AIS) Board of Directors have been elected for two year terms. Ms. Jeanne S. Whiteing, a Blackfeet tribal member, is the new President. Ms. Whiteing is an attorney in private practice who is former Deputy Director of the Native American Rights Fund.

Floyd Correa, former Governor of Laguna Pueblo,is the new Vice-President. Mr. Correa operates his own consulting business in Albuquerque, N.M. He is a member of the New Mexico Board of Finance.

The new Secretary-Treasurer is Martha Yallup, Deputy Director of Human Resources for the Yakima Tribe in Washington state. Ms. Yallup is a Yakima tribal member who also serves on the Board of Haskell Indian Jr. College.

AIS is a national, non-profit education organization which provides supplemental financial need for American Indian and Alaska Native graduate students. For the 1987-88 academic year AIS funded 254 graduate students nationwide. For more information, please contact: Lorraine P. Edmo at (505) 881-4584.

***THREE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA** American Indian students are among 17 outstanding students assisting the university in its efforts to recruit minority students. Participants in OU's Minority Intern Program are (from left) Marty Fixico of Seminole, along with Glenn Solomon, coordinator of OU American Indian Student Services, and students Lance Kelley of Tulsa and Maria Samaras of Oklahoma City.*

American Indian Students Assist University in Recruiting Efforts

NORMAN——Three American Indian students from the University of Oklahoma are among 17 students who have been selected to assist the university in its efforts to recruit minority students.

These minority interns, who each receive a $1,000 award for the academic year, are "very enthusiastic about recruiting more students to OU," said Chris Davies, coordinator of special programs for the Office of High School and College Relations.

Intern Maria Samaras, a Cherokee Indian, is a sophomore from Oklahoma City majoring in pre-med and microbiology. On campus Samaras has been active in the Students Against Multiple Sclerosis organization, Campus Chest philanthropy, Delta Delta Delta social sorority and the University Scholars Program.

"My childhood dream of becoming a physician and caring for American Indians was strengthened by volunteer work for Deaconness Hospital in Oklahoma City and the Oklahoma City Indian Clinic," Samaras said.

She added that more minority students should challenge themselves with high aspirations and throw out any notions that success will never come to them.

Another intern is Lance Kelley of Tulsa, a Creek and Shoshoni-Paiute Indian. An OU junior majoring in political science and history, he is serving as vice president of the American Indian Student Association.

"As an intern, I am really looking forward to contacting and recruiting Indian students," Kelley said.

Also participating is Marty Fixico of Seminole, a Cheyenne Indian, who graduated from Varnum High School. He transfered to OU from Haskell Indian Junior College and is a sophomore majoring in electrical engineering.

Before the minority interns begin recruiting students for fall 1988, members of the 1987-88 intern class will spend the first semester attending weekly meetings to learn more about the university.

During the second semester, the focus of the minority intern's activities shifts to the identification and recruitment of students in their hometowns. Members set the goal of each recruiting 10 students to OU by perhaps either attending hometown social events or visiting high schools or churches, Davies said.

Interns also travel with representatives of the Office of High School and College Relations on high school campus events for minority students.

When the interns have successfully recruited their new students, they then become a minority intern II, which allows them to assist their new recruits in their first year of college and offer any help the freshmen might need, she said.

"They act as a contact with the new students to help them get oriented to campus and student life and meet new friends," Davies said.

OKLAHOMA CITY——Maria Samaras is the daughter of Dr.John and Joanne Samaras.

SEMINOLE——Marty Fixico is the son of the Rev. T.J. and Katie Fixico.

TULSA——Lance Kelley is the son of Jess and Barbara Kelley.

Bacone Receives Grant. . .

Founders of Doctor's Hospital, Inc., has awarded a $75,000 grant to the Bacone College "Heritage for the Future" capital gifts campaign.

The grant was awarded to aid Bacone in the construction of new facilities for the college's radiologic technology department, according to Dr. Joseph Salamy, president of the Tulsa-based organization.

The gift will help Bacone achieve an important goal for the campaign, which calls for consolidating all of the Health Sciences Division in the college's C.C. Harmon Building, according to Alfred O. Ginkel, president of Bacone.

The "Heritage for the Future" Campaign is a seeks to raise $2.5 million over a three-year period. It is the first capital gifts campaign in the history of the college.

UC-Berkeley Offers Graduate Degrees

The University of California at Berkeley is seeking American Indians and Alaska Natives to apply for admission to graduate programs in the professions, which include; social welfare, public health, engineering, business administration, education, public policy, law and many others.

There are many degree programs which lead to satisfying, well-paid and useful positions, according to Dr. Rick St. Germaine, director of the American Indian Graduate Program at the University.

There is shortage in academic fields and extreme need for American Indians to teach in colleges and universities. Indian people interested in art, botony, history, languages, ethnic studies, music, political science and many other areas are urged to consider careers as academicians, bringing their cultural awareness into the class room at the college or university level.

The University of California at Berkeley has a history of involvement with American Indian students, with many enrolled in different graduate degree programs. There have been 191 Indian and Alaskan Native students who have graduated or have been enrolled in MPH Programs through the Berkeley Program.

American Indians and Alaska Natives are eligible to apply for Graduate Minority Program Fellowships which range from $5,000-$7,000, plus payment of (non-resident) tuition and fees.

February 10, 1988 is the deadline for submission of application for the Fall 1988 semester, however, if one is interested in applying for a GMP Fellowship, an application must be submitted by January 5, 1988.

For further information, call Dr. St. Germaine collect (415) 642-3228 or write to the American Indian Graduate Program, 140 Earl Warren Hall, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.

American Indian Institute Receives Dept. Ed Grant-

NORMAN— A two-year grant from the U.S. Department of Education will support a University of Oklahoma training program designed to identify and solve student substance abuse problems in multicultural settings.

Anita Chisholm, director of OU's American Indian Institute, received $311,000 from the department for the "Drug-Free Oklahoma Project: A Multicultural In-Service Training Program for School and Community Members."

"Training efforts by American Indian educators and other professionals will focus on personal, school and community responsibility in identifying and solving student substance abuse problems in multicultural settings," she said.

The two-year grant is due in part to the American Indian Institute's continuing role in alcohol and drug abuse prevention, Chisholm said.

Chisholm also received an $80,000 grant to continue the institute's Native American Research Information Service, a computerized data base containing complete bibliographic information and research abstracts related to Native American economic, natural resource and human resource development. Conducted by the American Indian Institute since 1984, the program regularly provides assistance to tribal leaders, planners, government personnel, researchers and others needing information related to recent Native American research.

The American Indian Institute is part of OU's division of public responsibility and community affairs.

Family Estate Gives Support Scholarships For Comanche Students

A man whose childhood in CACHE acquainted him with such famous Indian leaders as Geronimo and Quanah Parker has bequeathed an undivided one-third of his estate to the University of Oklahoma, a school he never attended.

The gift--which is designated for scholarships for deserving Comanche Indian students, preferably of full blood--is an undivided one-third interest in the estate of Walter J. Alexander of Moore.

The scholarships will honor Alexander's *mother, Sallie, and his* wife, Beulah. His sister, Cleo, of Pauls Valley, recalls that she and her brother became acquainted with Geronimo and Quanah Parker when they lived in CACHE because the two men frequented a restaurant owned by the mother of one of Cleo's childhood friends. Cleo speculates that the gentleness and self-respect exhibited by the two men captured her brother's attention, and that his gift to OU is his way of honoring his respect for American Indians as well as for his mother and his wife.

The first Sallie and Beulah W. Alexander Scholarship will be awarded this spring. The bulk of the gift will be placed in an endowment, which will provide income for future scholarships.

The gift, a part of OU's Centennial Campaign, was presented to the University by Jack Lyday of Bedford, Texas, a relative who is handling the settlement of Alexander's estate. Accepting on behalf of OU were Anona Adair, vice president for Student Affairs, and Elton Davis,

Birth Announcement—

JOSEPH MARK BOWEN

We are happy to announce the arrival of our new son, Joseph Mark Bowen, weighing 9lbs. 13 oz.

He was born at the Okla. Memorial Hospital in OKC, October 14, 1987. His parents are Joyce and Jay Bowen of OKC. His sisters are Jennifer, Maranee, Laholeetha Bowen of OKC.

His grandparents are Rev. Walter and Juanita McGirt of OKC. His great-great grandmother is Lucy McKane of Okemah.

BIA, FCC officials skeptical of Indian bingo fund-raiser:

$50 million bingo game planned

-Reprint from Washington Post, 11-28-87

WASHINGTON--An epidemic of drug and alcohol abuse thrives on the nation's Indian reservations, but Eric M. Tieger has an idea for attacking the problem. His formula:***Under the B, 12. Under the I, 64. Under the N. . .***

Teiger, secretary-treasurer of a Seattle-based alcohol-abuse program called the LifeCycle Foundation, is planning to beam a high-stakes bingo game to the world next May from the tiny Sauk-Siuattle Indian reservation in Washington state.

The cards would be expensive-$1,000 each- but the single prize of $50 million would be the biggest ever in the United States for a single game of chance. And Tieger says there would be boodles of bucks left over to finance drug and alcohol recovery programs for non-Indians, as well as Indians.

"It will be the largest gambling game in the world," Tieger said. "We think people will support this."

The idea comes as a bit of a surprise to the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Federal Communications Commission, where officials are skeptical of Tieger's plan.

"This is something new to us," said B.I.A. spokesman Carl Shaw. FCC spokesman Harvey Speck said federal communications law bans lotteries from the airwaves except under certain circumstances. "I can't see any broadcast station doing this willy-nilly without checking with us," Speck said.

Tieger, the Sauk-Suiattle tribe and Several other groups involved in the proposal say they are counting on court rulings that exempt Indian reservations from most state gambling regulations. States cannot set a limit on prizes for reservation bingo, as they can for games run by organizations off the reservation.

As a result, bingo parlors have sprung up on more than half of the nation's 167 Indian reservations, providing millions of dollars in revenue for the tribes.

The Sauk-Suiattle tribe has no bingo parlor, but it does have a reservation: about 23 acres near Darrington, in northwest Washington state. According to Tieger, the megabucks bingo game would be perfectly legal is telecast from tribal land. According to Speck, the FCC is not so certain.

"The rule is that it's prohibited to broadcast lotteries or advertising of lotteries sponsored by state governments, but not those backed by tribal governments.

"Indians have raised this question time and time again," seeking to advertise their bingo parlors on television Speck said. The FCC has routinely turned thumbs down.

Speck said, however, that the Tieger game might be allowed under FCC rules if the transmission did not involve an FCC-licensed broadcast station, or if the promoters of the game did not benefit from it. If the LifeCycle Foundation or some other promoter is willing to foot the bill and give all the proceeds to the Sauk-Suiattle tribe, for example, "that might be permissible," he said.

A "fact sheet" distributed by Tieger states that the foundation would be the beneficiary, receiving from $8 million to $10 million if the bingo game hauls in the $100 million he estimates.

Two other Seattle-area groups-Native American Alcohol Awareness and the Associated Alano Clubs of Pierce County, a group of private clubs for recovering alcoholics-would get $11 million apiece, and "participating tribes" would get $14 million. An additional $6 million would go to a "promotion and management firm, which is not identified.

Laurence Joseph, chairman of the Sauk-Suiattle tribal council, confirmed that his tribe has agreed to sponsor the telecast and has contracted with Tieger to develop the proposal. He said the tribe expects to get "enough to sustain our administrative costs."

Shaw said the BIA was unware of the contract between Tieqer and Sauk-Suiattle tribe. But if the tribe intends to run a bingo operation, he said, it has to get BIA approval.

"We have to do a background check on the people involved," Shaw said.

Tieger said the telecast arrangements are "under negotiation", but he said he is confident that the group will find a medium for its message. The game, preceded by what promoters are billing as a celebrity-studded show, is scheduled for May 13.

"This is a private-sector initiative solving a public-sector problem," he said. "We can do it without anybody's help. We just buy some satellite time and away we go." If necessary, he said the telecast would be done on closed-circuit television from Indian reservation to Indian reservation.

"We're not violating any wire gambling laws. It's just a charitable bingo game," Tieger said, "Jerry Lewis has his disease and I've got mine."

Part 1: The Eagle Story

Reprint from Okmulgee County History

Until recently, anyone looking up at the eagle crowning the belfry on top of the Creek Council House could see the sun shining through a round hole in one wing of the eagle. The hole has been repaired and filled in, but even though it can no longer be seen, eye witness accounts of how it came to be there remain in the memories of Okmulgee "old timers."

One version was told by Judge Samuel Haynes, who for a number of years, was Captain of the Light Horsemen, the Creek law enforcement agency. According to Judge Haynes, it was Wesley Barnett, a wanted outlaw, who shot the hole in the eagle's wing one time when the Creek National Council was in session.

Wesley Barnett daringly rode up to the very front of the Council House, drew his gun, and began firing. Judge Haynes said the meetings in the two houses broke up in bedlam as the members frantically sought shelter behind chairs and desks. The loud fusillade of shots brought the Light Horsemen on a gallup, but Wesley Barnett had disappeared. No one was injured in the fracas except the eagle on the belfry. It had sustained a shot in one of its wings.

Indian Rights Leader Wins 1987 Indian Achievement Award

John E. Echohawk (Pawnee) was awarded the 1987 Indian Achievement Award by the Indian Council Fire, at its annual dinner held on September 26th in Chicago. The nation's oldest urban Indian organization, the Indian Council Fire was found in 1923 and established its achievement award in 1933. Echohawk was honored for his outstanding leadership in the field of American Indian law. Echohawk has been with the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), since its inception in 1970, and has been its executive director for over the past decade. Under his leadership, this national public interest Indian law firm has been at the forefront of major legal battles to help Indians retain or regain their legal rights. Echohawk resides in Boulder, Colorado, with his wife and two children.

Born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1945, Echohawk graduated from high school at Farmington in 1963 and received his B.A. in Government from the University of New Mexico in 1967. In 1970, he was the first graduate of the University of New Mexico Law School's program to train American Indian lawyers. While in law school, he was a founding member of the American Indian Law Student's Association. After graduation, he joined NARF, serving as research associate (1970-72), deputy director (1972-73), director (1973-75), staff attorney and vice-executive director (1975-77), and executive director from 1977 to present. He is a member of the bar in the State of Colorado.

CHRISTMAS IS NEVER COMPLETE WITHOUT THE ANGELS, *and these Yeager Headstart students played the part beautifully at the Annual Cree Nation Headstart Center's Christmas Program held December 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the Mound Building at the Complex. Students, teachers and parents from each of Creek Nation's Headstart Centers (Yeager, Eufaula, Okmulgee, and Sapulpa), participated in the program.*